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"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE FATAL CRACK EXAMINED.

EVERYBODY interested in the question of religious willinghood will have in recollection the memorable condemnation of it pronounced in parliament some time since by Lord John Russell, then secretary of state for the colonies, and leader of her Majesty's ministerial forces in the House of Commons. The noble lord was unusually merry on the occasion, and parodying a couplet of Dr Johnson's, originally applied to stage-players, he thus expressed himself:—

"And men who live to preach, must preach to live."

Lively as was the indignation excited at the time by this uncourteous attack upon the whole body of voluntaries, it seemed to escape notice that the manner rather than the matter of his lordship's speech was that alone which could pretend to novelty. Substantially, the objection to the voluntary system, thus wrapped up in ridicule and redolent of offensive associations, has always been urged against it. As Lord John Russell is now traveling by rapid stages to the region of forgetfulness, it would ill become us to call him back to take his trial for past offences; we may, therefore, dismiss from our minds all recollection that this charge against the principle we are labouring to commend was once preferred against it by him. Nevertheless we cannot persuade ourselves to quit the present branch of our inquiry without taking a comprehensive, but hasty, glance at what may be thought to vitiate all our former reasonings, and endeavouring to show the harmony of the voluntary system with man's nature, as well in the capacity of teacher as in that of disciple.

The fatal crack in the voluntary principle—that which, whatever recommendations it may otherwise possess, renders it essentially unsound, and totally unfit for common use—is the strong temptation, we are told, to which it necessarily exposes the teachers of Christianity to accommodate truth to the taste of their hearers, and to lower the standard of its pretensions and claims with a view to please the corrupt cravings of those upon whose bounty its ministers are made dependent. The gospel, it is said, considered as a system of religious doctrine and morals, is too refined, too spiritual, too severely pure, to secure a ready acceptance amongst the general crowd of men. It becomes, consequently, a matter of grave importance that they whose business it is to expound and enforce it, should be placed above the temptation of securing their own livelihood by making truth to square with human predilections. Without ascribing to those ministers who are maintained by the voluntary offerings of their hearers more than an average amount of frailty, yet, placed as they are in a position of precarious dependence, it is far from uncharitable to assume that they will not be strangers to a natural anxiety to make their message as little offensive as possible; nor would it be wise to expect from men thus situated that faithful declaration of all revealed doctrines, or that bold rebuke of prevailing errors and of fashionable vices, which might be justly demanded at the hands of Christian teachers. This fidelity to the high claims of office, it is urged, will most readily grow out of an independence of position—and they who are in no danger of being deprived of the means of subsistence will be least likely to conform their teaching to worldly prejudices and tastes.

It is not our purpose, on behalf of the voluntary principle, to treat this objection as a groundless insinuation. In common candour we feel bound to admit that it is neither devoid of truth nor of force. The ministers of truth, dependent for temporal subsistence upon the good will of the flocks they feed, are, we allow, in some danger of choosing to proffer palatable rather than salutary doctrines. They are but men—they must needs live—and the sacrifice of temporal prospects to ministerial fidelity is a result which, although not nearly so rare as some have insisted upon, cannot be calculated upon with anything approaching to moral certainty.

The objection, however, it ought to be remembered, even were it still weightier than it is, cannot be regarded as decisive of the question; and, such as it is, it is a two-edged sword—it cuts both ways with equal keenness.

Let it be admitted that the maintenance of Christian institutions by voluntary offerings, does expose the teachers of religious truth to the temp-

tation of shaping their message to the taste of their hearers, it does not follow that, by adopting the compulsory system, we should not encounter yet more formidable dangers. It may happen, that in attempting to avoid Scylla, we shall only get engulfed in Charybdis. No system, we apprehend, which is committed to the management of fallible men, can be justly regarded as safe from the possibility of abuse. There will needs be peril of some kind, upon whatever course we profess to steer—and, surely, it is not unreasonable in the advocates of the voluntary principle, whilst conceding its liability to be turned to a pernicious account, to weigh the admitted evil with the equally certain evils of the opposite system, and after deliberately striking a balance, to give their preference as the scale inclines. We shall not, however, lay stress upon this at the present moment. We have "more attractive metal" claiming immediate notice. If men, entrusted with the grave responsibilities pertaining to spiritual instruction, betray an aptness to make the truth they preach coincide with the views and wishes of those upon whom their temporal comforts are dependent; then, it is to be borne in mind, that under any circumstances but those of absolute independence, the same kind of danger must be incurred. Subservience to an individual patron, is, at least, as much to be deprecated as subservience to a congregation. It may be, that pay received at the hands of the state will dispose men to interpret divine truth in accordance with the wishes of the state. Possibly, were the matter probed to the bottom, it would be found that in an establishment, equally as elsewhere, men's worldly interests may prompt them to colour the truths they proclaim—to give to some an undue prominence—to suppress the remotest allusion to others—to exaggerate, to twist, and in effect to falsify the doctrines of Christianity, from motives as selfish and as corrupt as any which can be laid to the charge of unauthorised teachers. The clergyman who sits at my lord's table, who has an eye to future preferment, and whose interest is linked with "things as they are," may be tempted to gloss over fashionable vices, to debase the spirituality of the gospel, and to preach up the divine right of kings, the virtue of passive obedience, the efficacy of sacraments, and the exclusive pretensions of that priesthood of which he claims to be a member, in spite of his boasted independence of his flock. The truth is, that the main comforts of a minister's life will always rest mainly for support upon the good-will of others—and whether those others be few or many, a people or a government, a church or a patron, deacons or lords, there will always be a powerful worldly inducement to accommodate truth to vitiated tastes.

Against this obvious danger, however, the voluntary principle provides some very efficient checks. Many considerations may be put forward, well calculated to break the force of the objection. The very uncertainty of the system, the capricious working, as it is called, of the principle under review, will tend to deter men who have no higher motive than a pecuniary one, from pursuing a livelihood by this path. It may be further noted that, however people in general may love a lie, they are not forward to pay for being taught it. The means of religious instruction will be mainly supported by the efforts of the serious and sincere. These will be quick-sighted to detect any gross discrepancies between what they hear from others, and what they read for themselves. General fidelity will always meet with general support—and as men differ in their tastes about sin, as well as about everything else, it will be found, for the most part, that the bold denunciation of any special error, or particular vice, whilst it may offend individuals, will commend itself to the mass.

We need not, however, resort to *a priori* reasonings. We may confidently and most triumphantly appeal to *fact*. Under which system, the voluntary or the compulsory, have the self-denying, the unpalatable, the purely spiritual claims of Christianity been most fervently proclaimed? Who enacted the "book of sports"? Who sanctioned and abetted the brutal amusements of a bygone age? Talk of lowering the tone of religion to worldly tastes, why, has it not been urged against sectaries, from Elizabeth's time downwards, that they were in doctrine "precisians"—in morals, sour and morose? Where do we find voluntary religious societies presided over by fox-hunting, gaming, roystering parsons? Are we branded as methodists, and scouted as fa-

natics, because our habits are lax, and our ministrations of truth too pleasing to worldly predilections? Look over the literature of dissent—compare its theology with that of state-paid divines. If voluntarism has so alarming a tendency to debase the standards of Christian truth, and nullify the maxims of Christian virtue, how comes it that latitudinarianism has never been amongst the crimes laid to its charge, and that uncharitable rigour has? If the world craves after spiritual falsehood, and this principle prompts its ministers to utter it with a view to please the world, how are we to account for the fact that all the nobility, and fashion, and wealth, and frivolity, and worthlessness of the kingdom cling to the established church; and that dissenters succeed, not exclusively, but chiefly, amongst the classes which border upon the confines of poverty? The charge of offering up truth upon the altar of a worldly expediency, comes with rather an ill grace from those who dress up bishops in lawn and splendour for the avowed object of conciliating the good-will of the aristocracy—and, hacknied as is the passage, we cannot forbear handing them back their charge, carefully wrapped up therein—

"Mutato nomine, de te fabula narratur."

MAHOMET AND JUGGERNAUT.

ABOUT the year of our Lord 1025, and of the Hegira 416, Sultan Mahmoud Yamino' ddawla Ebn Sabektekkin, according to the chronicles of Mirkhond, a celebrated Persian historian, undertook an expedition into India, and after a succession of victories over the natives, made himself master of Sumenat, or, according to modern orthography, Somnauth. This Mahmoud was a very zealous servant of Mahomet, and, acting upon the principles of the Koran, he preached the religion he professed with the edge of his scymitar. The ambitious soldier of "the lying prophet," prompted by the double motive of avarice and piety, showed no mercy to Indian idolatry. After having put to death some fifty thousand votaries of the god worshipped at Somnauth, he despoiled the temple of immense wealth, and returned, bearing with him, as a trophy of his zeal and his success, the sandal-wood gates of the celebrated pagoda. These gates afterwards adorned his tomb, which was erected at Ghuznee, where he died. History makes no mention of any attempt on the part of the Hindoos to avenge this affront put upon Juggernaut some eight hundred years ago. The idol-god, however, was destined to be avenged on the Arabian heresiarch. Retribution slept long, but it came at last—and it came by the hands of the *quasi* representative of her Majesty Queen Victoria, the temporal head of the only apostolical church of Christ—the church of England. Lord Ellenborough, governor-general of India, has wiped away from Juggernaut the stain of 800 years; and thus, in a figure, Christianity has restored to long-lost and almost forgotten honours, the bloodiest idol of Indian mythology. What a glorious compensation for all the blood and treasure expended by Great Britain in the Affghan war!

So, evidently, Lord Ellenborough deems it. In a proclamation recently published, a copy of which we gave in our last number, the noble viceroy thus announces the event to the princes and chiefs of Sirhind, Rajwarra, Malwa, and Guzerat:—

"My brothers and friends—Our victorious army bears the gates of the temple of Somnauth in triumph from Affghanistan, and the despoiled tomb of the Sultan Mahmoud looks upon the ruins of Ghuznee.

"The insult of 800 years is at last avenged. The gates of the temple of Somnauth, so long the memorial of your humiliation, are become the proudest records of your national glory—the proof of your superiority in arms over the nations beyond the Indus.

"To you, princes and chiefs of Sirhind, of Rajwarra, of Malwa and Guzerat, I shall commit this glorious trophy of successful war.

"You will, yourselves, with all honour, transmit the gates of sandal-wood through your respective territories to the restored temple of Somnauth."

"Vishnu for ever!" cries, in effect, this exalted son of our established church, hereditary guardian of the religion of Christ in these realms—and as he bows in official pomp to the grim and senseless Juggernaut, the wheels of whose car have crushed thousands of besotted votaries into a premature grave, he exclaims, "May thy days never be less!" To those who are well acquainted with the past and present policy of the Honourable East India Company, in reference to the idolatry of the Hindoos, this proclamation will be no very startling

affair. It is in strict keeping with the whole of their proceedings. Their servants and minions of every grade are compelled to do homage, in one shape or another, to heathenism as obscene and cruel as can be found in any part of the world. Lord Ellenborough's empty vanity may have given to the exposition of his policy a more ringing sound than despots at home may judge to have been desirable—and against this vanity the *Times*, the representative *par excellence* of our mercantile body, may seek to raise a laugh, or even to rouse indignation. But well-informed and sober-minded men will not, we trust, be diverted by so stale a trick. The fact is, that encouragement of idolatry in its most hideous phases has constituted, and continues to constitute, a main feature of that policy by which our government, all sanctimonious as it is at home, seeks to retain its influence over the natives of Hindustan. Lord Ellenborough has committed the mistake of putting the thing down on paper—of translating the *thing* into words—that is all. And so, whilst our rulers, deeply concerned to spread Christianity in England, are about, if report speaks correctly, to commit themselves to a scheme of church extension, they will tacitly connive, we suppose, at the zeal of the Governor-general of India to feed the affection of heathens in that country for a sanguinary idol. This is no new exhibition of the aristocratic (whig and tory) version of the duties devolving upon a *Christian* government. What it now is it always has been. If America had done this, what a howl would have been set up against the wickedness of democracy. But English nobles have a *jus divinum* to do evil—and aristocratic ascendancy, which alone is answerable for such impieties, must be held sacred in the eyes of all serious Christians! Well! what next?

In the Arches court on Wednesday last, the case of Bearblock and Newman, churchwardens of Hornchurch, against Piggott, for subtraction of church rate, the details of which have appeared in our columns, came on for judgment. The defendant, who appeared in person, read a paper setting forth various objections to the rate—namely, that there was no proof that the chapelry of Romford was in the parish of Hornchurch; that legal notices of the vestries had not been given; that the rate was in part retrospective; that it was excessive; and that it included items not properly subjects of church rate. Dr Addams, for the churchwardens, contended that this was a vexatious opposition to a legal demand; that there was no evidence to support the objections; and he prayed that the defendant might be condemned in the costs. Sir H. Jenner Fust was of opinion that the defendant had assigned no ground for invalidating the rate. Some of his objections ought to have been put in plea and established by evidence; whereas he had examined no witnesses, and great part of his plea had been rejected as inadmissible. There was one charge carried by the rates, which he (the learned judge) thought an improper one—namely, for a dinner, which it was the custom in this parish for the churchwardens to provide at the visitations, to which they invited their friends, and which it had been customary to pay for out of the rates. This was an improper practice, and he was glad to hear that it had been discontinued. But, besides the smallness of the amount of this item, this had been the practice in the parish, and the accounts had been passed by the vestry without objection. He could not, therefore, hold that such a charge vitiated the rate; but, though it might be necessary for the churchwardens to have refreshments, he wished these and other churchwardens to understand that such feasting of others out of a church rate ought not to continue. Considering that the opposition to this rate had been a vexatious opposition, pertinaciously insisted upon by Mr Piggott, he should, in pronouncing for the amount sued for, condemn him in the costs. The defendant said he should appeal to the judicial committee of the privy council.

SEIZURE FOR CHURCH RATES.—J. C. Olive, Esq., of Woodlands, and Mr C. Barton, of Missenden, have this week had their goods again seized by the ecclesiastical officers of mother church, as the most ready means of converting them to what the *Morning Post* calls the "only true church." Not content with seven quarters of good wheat, the minions of the establishment took a selection of the best articles of Mr Olive's furniture, thus putting that gentleman to as great an inconvenience as possible. The fellows also walked over Mr Barton's house, and behaved in a most insulting and offensive manner. This by way of proving their descent from the apostles. Tuesday last was fixed for the public sale of these stolen articles, but the Pope who was to have officiated was again ill, or fancied himself so, and served the churchwardens of Missenden as he formerly did those of Hemel Hempstead.—*Aylesbury News*.

CHURCH RATES, NOTTINGHAM.—It appears from the *Nottingham Review*, that great excitement has been occasioned in the parish of St Mary, in that town, by an attempt to impose a church rate. On Thursday morning, the meeting was held, when Churchwarden Eddows said he had been in office fourteen years, and for the last eight had not asked for a rate; but he had now received a monition from the ecclesiastical court, commanding him to demand a rate or go to prison. The meeting was so numerous, that an adjournment to the Town hall was necessary; and that place was crowded. Archdeacon Wilkins, who was in the chair, said that £3,300 would be required to repair the church. Churchwarden Eddows said

there were debts, which would raise the amount to £4,000; and he should therefore move that a rate of 1s. 6d. in the pound be laid. The excitement now became tremendous, and the shouts, hisses, and groans were deafening. Mr T. T. Page seconded the motion. After some discussion, and much noise, Mr T. Beggs, secretary of the Complete Suffrage association, denounced the rate as unjust in principle, and as, at this time, particularly, a flagrant insult to the suffering people. He then moved an amendment, declaring all church rates iniquitous, and that the meeting be adjourned for twelve months. Mr H. Newton seconded the amendment. The Archdeacon refused to put it, declaring that the poll should commence; and insultingly refused to hear another amendment which was moved. A scene of great confusion ensued, Mr Beggs declaring that he would never pay the rate, and calling upon the Archdeacon to act fairly, or quit the chair. At length the Archdeacon adjourned the poll to two o'clock. At the conclusion that evening, the numbers were:—

Against the rate 245
For it 38

Majority against 207

A correspondent has sent us the following account of the close of the poll:—"From 1815 to 1826, no less than £25,000 was levied in Nottingham for church rates. Since the latter year, every attempt to obtain a rate has been fruitless. On this occasion, the Archdeacon sat at chairman, taking the poll on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; and at the conclusion, the majority against the rate was 784. Many of the churchmen refused to vote, and not a few who reside in the parish, go to the new church built about 30 years ago on the voluntary principle, where there is a clergyman of the evangelical kind; and these would, if the matter had come at all close, have voted against the rate, rather than have paid it.

CHURCH RATES—MERTHYR TYDVIL.—On Friday last, the 13th instant, a meeting of rate payers was held at the parish vestry, for the purpose of considering the propriety of making a church rate. A written notice of the meeting was placed on the church door on Sunday, the 8th instant, and slipped off at the close of the day; so that the church party might have had a very snug little meeting, all their own way, but for a lucky incident which led to the discovery of the plot. A highly respected gentleman of liberal principles, by mere chance, called on one of the clergymen of the parish, who, guilt-stricken, supposing the visitor had got hold of the secret, resolved to act a manly part, and, therefore, he stated the fact, "that there was to be a church rate on the following Friday." "Is there, indeed? I did not know it before," was the provoking reply. This champion of religious liberty lost no time in diffusing the precious information he had thus accidentally obtained from his clerical friend. The meeting was called at twelve, but the dissenting ministers (twelve or thirteen in number) with their friends, true to principle, assembled at eleven o'clock, and the room at that early hour was comfortably filled. At length the time for commencing the business of the day arrived, and lo! a knot of churchmen, accompanied by a few influential supporters from one or two of the neighbouring iron works, made their appearance. They looked very blank; indeed, they seemed to be quite dismayed, when they saw such a formidable array of dissenters already in the field. About twelve o'clock, Mr D. W. James rose and proposed, "That Mr Lewis Lewis, spirit merchant, do take the chair." Mr Samuel Thomas, grocer, seconded the motion. W. Davies, Esq., solicitor, moved as an amendment, "That the Rev. T. Williams, the curate of the parish, then absent, should preside as usual, and that some gentleman present should occupy the chair until Mr Williams would arrive." Mr Charles J. Powell, of Dowlais, was requested by both parties to take the sense of the meeting, and it was decided that a majority of four to one had voted for the original motion. Mr Lewis took the chair amidst great applause, and the business proceeded. The accounts were read, but as they could not be passed in their present state, W. Morgan, Esq., solicitor (a churchman), proposed that they should be submitted to a committee, formed at that meeting, for examination, and that a report be presented at a meeting to be again convened for that purpose. After some friendly conversation on the subject, the proposition was seconded and passed. An estimate of expenses for the ensuing year was then produced by the churchwardens, and W. Davies, Esq., moved that a rate of one penny in the pound be granted. D. Evans, Esq., bank, seconded the motion. Mr D. W. James moved as an amendment, "That it is the opinion of this meeting that no rate shall be granted." Four or five gentlemen simultaneously seconded the motion, and it was carried by an overwhelming majority. A poll was demanded by Mr Davies, on behalf of the church rate party, and it was moved by Mr B. Howard, grocer, and seconded by Mr D. W. James, that the votes be taken by ballot. This measure was also carried by an immense majority, amidst tremendous applause. W. Davies, Esq., disputed the legality of such a proceeding; and Charles James, Esq., the parish solicitor, in a very clever address, affirmed that the meeting had power to make their own arrangements. He quoted an instance from the *Nonconformist* newspaper of the adoption of this principle. It was then determined that the poll by ballot should commence on Wednesday morning at nine o'clock, and finally close on Thursday evening at eight o'clock. The chairman then declared the meeting to be adjourned, and immediately left the chair. Several pro-church-rate voters protested against the adjournment and the ballot; and in despair endeavoured to tender their

votes, but in vain, as the chairman and the opposition marched off in triumph. The fractional minority, however, remained in the room, and openly recorded their votes in favour of the rate. The result of this contest shall be forwarded in due time.—*From a Correspondent*.

TITHES.—At Clerkenwell police office, on Tuesday, twenty-eight of the inhabitants of the parish of St Sepulchre were summoned for refusing to pay their tithes. The sums claimed varied in amount from 25s. to 4s. Mr James appeared on behalf of the rector, the Rev. Mr Natt, of Mecklenburgh square. None of the defendants appeared to the summonses, which were not then renewed.

INCONSISTENCY AMONG DISSENTERS.—At a town not one hundred miles from Kingsbridge, two dissenting ministers have placed their sons at the diocesan school, where it is well known to be a *sine qua non* that the scholars shall learn the church catechism, and repeat it daily. Many clergymen have declined taking any part in the superintendence of these schools, in consequence of books being allowed to be introduced, tending to Puseyism.—*Correspondent, Western Times*.

PERSECUTION OF THE BAPTISTS IN GERMANY.—At Marburgh, one of the principal towns in Hussia, there is a small baptist church, whose members, at the present time, are suffering a severe persecution on account of their principles as baptists. The subjoined extract from a letter, written by Dr Raumer, a member of the church at Stuttgart, to Mr Lehmann, pastor of the baptist church at Berlin, describes the following scene as having lately occurred at Marburgh. The letter is dated July 6, 1842:—

"Our sister church at Marburgh, of which you have heard, has now been for a long time an object of persecution and hostile treatment on the part of the magistrates there. A beloved brother there, Jeremiah Grimm, who neglected to bring his infant child into the state-church to be sprinkled, was at first punished in the payment of a heavy fine, which was intended to compel him to obey the requisition. As he did not of his own accord pay the money exacted of him, he was fined still further, and his furniture, even to chairs and beds, was seized and taken from him. These measures having failed to shake the firmness of the brother and his like-minded wife, the magistrates then threatened to take the child from them by force, and to perform upon it themselves the rite of church baptism. As the first step to the execution of this threat, a guardian was appointed to the child and the parents. At length, on last Monday, the plan was carried fully into effect. The guardian, taking advantage of the absence of the father, came into the house with a band of police officers and soldiers, and demanded the child of the mother. Upon her refusal to surrender it, the infant was torn from her by force and immediately dragged away in order to have the act of church baptism, so called, performed upon it, before the father could return to prevent it."

To prevent the recurrence of such scenes, the brethren propose to petition the government for a relaxation of the laws in their behalf. Their prospects of success in this application are not, however, for the present at least, the most encouraging.

EMPINGHAM.—The offer by the Rev. Lovick Cooper of a reward of £50 for the discovery of the persons concerned in the acts of "sacrilege" (!) and outrage in this parish detailed last week, has led to no useful result. On the contrary, the spirit of opposition to the clergyman seems daily to be increased by his conduct. A figure in a black gown has been seen hanging up in a tree, and has occasioned much conversation. It is understood that the reverend gentleman has actually corresponded with the Secretary of State on the subject. Empingham is a living in the influence of the government; and the Secretary of State certainly can apply a remedy (the only one, it is believed) to the unhappy feeling which has been excited.—*Stamford Mercury*.

A COLD DUCK.—As a *reverend* divine, residing within fifty miles of Sleaford, was one evening a few weeks since returning home, in that state which sailors term "half-seas-over," he, working sinuously onward, came at length unexpectedly in contact with a sheet of water by the side of the road, and, being in a rather helpless condition, was unable of himself to quit the cool element and regain *terra firma*: he cried loudly for help, and was fortunately heard, and drawn from the water, by an individual who lives near the spot, or the consequences might have been fatal. His *reverence* was led home, and, after some impious and indelicate expressions, was put to bed, where he slept off the effects of the debauch. The next day, being Sunday—(oh, tell it not in the village of Kirkby Laythorpe, publish it not in the streets of Sleaford)—he preached a sermon against immorality and profaneness.—*Stamford Mercury*.

If monuments in Christian churches be the proper channels for heralding to the world the praises of departed warriors, it is not easy to discover why the Christian pulpit should not be appropriated to the same purpose—why a Christian preacher should not, in the style of Pericles or Plato, enunciate funeral orations to the praise of those who are gone, and for the encouragement of those who come after them.—*Times*.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM'S REPLY

TO THE MEMORIAL OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The *Times* of Saturday contains the reply of the Secretary of State for the Home department, addressed to the Moderator of the church of Scotland, to two memorials from the last General Assembly to her Majesty, the one claiming her attention to the claim, declaration, and protest, anent the encroachments of the court of Session on the spiritual jurisdiction of the church; the other "praying that her Majesty would be graciously pleased to direct measures to be taken towards effecting the abolition of

church patronage in Scotland." From the length of the document it would be impossible to transfer it entire, we therefore subjoin the more important portions of it.

After quoting a paragraph from one of the memorials, holding out the threat of the disruption of the present established church of Scotland unless the demand of the Assembly were complied with, Sir J. Graham replies:—

"If her Majesty's servants could have entertained the propositions for which you contend, and could thereby have averted the calamity which you foreshadow, a day would not have passed before they would have seized the opportunity of giving contentment to the church, and of staying the progress of a schism from which unhappy consequences may be apprehended.

"But when we consider the nature and extent of your demands, we find them to be no less than the reversal of the solemn judgments of the supreme courts of law—the repeal of the statute under which, for a period of 130 years, patronage has been administered in Scotland, and the concession of privileges, not such as are ascertained and defined by constitutional law or the recorded decisions of competent tribunals, but privileges such as 'the church considers to belong to her.'

A reason for the silence which the government had hitherto maintained having been given, the reply proceeds—

"The allegation is now distinct, that 'the constitution of the country has been broken, and that vested rights and privileges, secured by statute and solemn national treaty, have been violated.'

"The question at once arises—when, and by whom?"

The Home Secretary then enters upon a brief, but succinct, narrative of the differences between the church and the authority of the state, premising that no cause for complaint had been alleged prior to the year 1834.

"In the year 1834 the General Assembly passed an act which gave to the heads of families in each parish, being communicants, a veto on the presentation of the patron; and the House of Lords, by their judgment in the first Auchterarder case, pronounced this act of Assembly to be illegal, and practically incompatible with the civil right of patrons, as fixed and determined by act of parliament. It would seem, therefore, that this attack on vested rights, secured by statute, is of modern date, and that the civil authorities were not the aggressors.

"It is clear, from the claim, declaration, and protest, that the pretensions of the church proceed on the assumption that the courts of law, in deciding upon the act of Assembly of 1834, exceeded their jurisdiction; that they have no power to determine whether matters brought before them are within the scope of their authority, if in the opinion of the church these matters involve any spiritual considerations; that neither sentences of courts, nor decrees of the House of Lords, nor even acts of parliament, shall be effectual, if they interfere with the rights and privileges of the church, of which interference, and of which spiritual considerations, the church itself is to be the exclusive judge."

After a few pointed remarks on the danger of ecclesiastical supremacy over the civil power, he remarks—

"Pretensions such as these have heretofore been successfully resisted by the sovereigns and people of this realm; nor could they be conceded without the surrender of civil liberty, and without the sacrifice of personal rights."

He then points out the distinct purposes and objects of civil and ecclesiastical courts, and their individual independence the one of the other, and refers to the despotic power that would be vested in the General Assembly, if, as it is asserted, "a fundamental law may be established by their resolutions":—

"I will not pursue this point further—the danger is obvious. This train of reasoning leads directly to despotic power. But the Veto act was passed on this illegal assumption, and the attempt on the part of the church to sustain this encroachment on civil rights by subsequent resolutions is the main cause of the present difficulties in which the church is involved.

"The Veto act was upheld after its illegality had been ascertained by deliberate judgments of the court of Session and of the House of Lords; nay, more, it is not yet abandoned—it is upheld, in defiance of law and of the supreme civil authority."

After quoting the statute book in support of his position, he proceeds—

"Can it be justly denied that the patron's right pertains to the civil jurisdiction, or that the Assembly, in passing the Veto act, has intermeddled with civil affairs otherwise than by way of humble petition and advice?"

"The Veto act has been challenged on these grounds; its legality has been tried, and it has been declared by a solemn judgment to be an usurpation inconsistent with the just exercise of the patron's right. The law is clear. It has been ascertained in the mode provided by the constitution."

"The Assembly submitted the question at issue to the judgment of the court of Session. They were dissatisfied with the decision. They had their legal remedy. They used it. They carried the judgment by appeal to the bar of the House of Lords; and, in the last resort, the judgment of the Scotch court was confirmed, and the Veto act was pronounced to be illegal. This solemn decision fixed the principle of law which rules all the minor cases which have since arisen."

A brief allusion to the second Auchterarder and Strathgogie presbytery cases is then made, with the following severe comment on the latter:—

"I am also compelled reluctantly to remark, that the church, not content with disobeying the decrees of the civil courts, has inflicted the severities of her discipline, as in the case of the Strathgogie presbytery, on ministers whose only crime has been obedience to what has been declared to be the law of the land."

A reference is then made to the *quoad sacra* cases, "in which the grave question arises, whether the church courts have power to create separate parishes *quoad sacra*; and to give to the ministers thereof, in the ecclesiastical courts, the power and privileges of parochial clergy? This question is at present under judicial discussion; no judgment of the court has been pronounced."

The view of the case, as bearing on the legislature, is then given—

"I cannot omit the observation that, in the declaration of right, the censures passed on the courts of law are hardly more severe than on the acts of the legislature: for not only the House of Lords, but former parliaments, are charged with the violation of the articles of union, and with a breach of the settlement of presbyterian church government effected at the revolution."

"A church established by law cannot quarrel with the courts of law, and long retain its respect for the authority of parliament."

"The statute law is but the voice of the legislature, the final declaration of its will. The civil court is the expositor of its intentions, the instrument whereby its purpose is effected. If the statute of Anne were repealed to-morrow, and another law substituted in its place, disputed questions would arise, and the new statute in its turn, like every other statute, those included on which the establishment of the church of Scotland rests, could only be enforced by the jurisdiction and decrees of those civil tribunals which are objects of jealousy to the Assembly, and whose judgments are resented as encroachments on spiritual power."

Then follows an examination of the law of patronage and its limitations, and the proposal to transfer the right of presentation to the people, in which case

Sir James Graham argues that in no long time the whole power would fall into the hands of the church itself. The reply concludes with the following emphatic declaration of the decision of government.

"In the hope of peace Lord Aberdeen, one of her Majesty's present advisers, sought by legislation to remove doubts, which by some were supposed to exist, respecting the admission of ministers to benefices in Scotland, by declaring the law, and by defining with precision the respective rights and powers of the different parties interested in the settlement of a minister."

"In the same spirit I expressed on the part of the government, in the course of last session, willingness to attempt legislation on these same recorded principles, hoping that both the church and people of Scotland might be found desirous to terminate this unhappy controversy on terms which are strictly conformable to presbyterian discipline and to established rights."

"The acts of the General Assembly, the claim, declaration, and protest, the address against patronage, the demand of the repeal of the statute of Anne, have unhappily diminished, so far at least as the church is concerned, these reasonable hopes; and her Majesty's ministers, now understanding that nothing less than the total abrogation of the rights of the Crown and of other patrons will satisfy the church, are bound with firmness to declare that they cannot advise her Majesty to consent to the grant of any such demand."

GENERAL ASSEMBLY—SPECIAL COMMISSION.—A meeting of the special commission of the assembly was held on Thursday, when they agreed to a minute in reply to the letter from the Home Secretary, on the subjects which at present agitate the church. The minute argues at great length the right claimed by the church for exclusive jurisdiction in ecclesiastical matters, and contends that the power assumed by the civil court is a power not conferred by the state. It then alludes to the other questions referred to in the letter from government; and, assuming that ministers are not inclined to grant any redress of the grievances complained of, it states that "the legislature will have an alternative submitted to them, namely, whether to force on a disruption of the established church of Scotland, with all its attendant evils, or to restore the church to the state in which she was between 1834 and 1838, when the Veto act had not been declared illegal—the power to admit *quoad sacra* ministers had not been challenged—and the jurisdiction of the civil courts, which has since been so largely exercised, had not been claimed." The special commission are of opinion that the claim of right should be laid before parliament, and that the commission of assembly should petition both houses, calling the attention of the legislature to the grievances and applications for redress set forth in the church's claim.—*Edinburgh Courant*.

Correspondence.

APPROACHING FALL OF CHURCH ESTABLISHMENTS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Since it is a generally admitted fact, that the times are portentous and extraordinary; and as there is no legitimate channel open for original sentiment (I state this advisedly), unless indeed it is dearly paid for, for "truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter;" I once more, in the eleventh hour, of the "dark and cloudy day," when the elements of God's judgments against a perverse and rebellious world are developing, draw a bow at a venture, submitting to Providence alone for the result.

I know not, Mr Editor, what will be your determination regarding the light of truth, neither does it concern me to know, but this I know assuredly, that the times are awful in the extreme; and there is evidence which the instructed theologian understands, and which convinces him, that we have arrived at that momentous period spoken of by all the prophets since the world began, when God would accomplish the great and awful matters of unfulfilled prediction. I hesitate not to state, that the great and dreadful conflict of "Armageddon" has begun; and that it is upon the matter of civil establishments of Christianity that all the influences of carnal human nature will be brought to bear against that special Providence that wills their destruction. I view, sir, in the formation of the two great classes of society on this momentous question, the respective enemies of the abettors of anti-christ and the Lamb, mentioned Rev. xix. 19. The policy of the Puseyites is not seen; they, by throwing the distinctive principles of the reformation overboard, are wishing to cultivate such a friendship with Rome, as to induce papal states to sympathise with them in their time of need; but the destined hour of their peril is come, and though she mount up above the clouds of heaven, the vials of divine vengeance shall follow her, and bring her low, even to the dust.

Dissenters are not aware in what an honourable service they are engaged, or they would not be so slow to co-operate in this glorious strife. Let them, on this question, meet as men on political grounds, irrespective of their religious differences, for they have to do with it and the government as a civil affair; and as members of civil society they have an especial duty to perform towards it. Let them compel the kings of the earth to relinquish their unnatural and adulterous connexion with it, for they have it in their power so to do; and the licentious intercourse of this harlot cannot exist another day but by the sufferance of dissenters. Depend upon it, sir, that there is a period to the domination of Mystery Babylon, when once there is united the elements of truth and justice on this question; and that will be when spiritual men are led to discover the true character of the conflict in which they are engaged; and when they shall cordially unite themselves with every class of the social body of society, who are willing to lend an assisting hand to bring to the dust the enemy of God and man.

ONESIMUS.

DISSENTING INCONSISTENCIES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—You have often had occasion, in your articles on ecclesiastical affairs, to refer to the compromising spirit of a certain class of the dissenting community, and have justly traced what is imparable in our present position as nonconformists mainly to that source. Many, into whose hands your paper has fallen, have taken great offence at some of your remarks on the subject, and have been ready to charge you with all uncharitableness, for giving expression to such sentiments. But the following transaction, which unhappily does not stand alone in the annals of modern dissent, must be felt by all true

and candid men fully to justify the tone of honest severity you have sometimes adopted. The facts of the case run thus:—Some of the most intelligent and respectable of the dissenters in the parish of Great Missenden, Bucks, felt it their duty to protest against the compulsory principle in religion by refusing to pay church rates—among whom J. C. Clive, Esq., was one of the principal parties. The churchwardens determined, as on former occasions, to avail themselves of the little brief authority, with which human law has invested them, to plunder the property and wound the consciences of the recusants, by seizing their goods, although professedly their fellow Christians—their brethren beloved in the Lord! So far, however, the case presents nothing that is very extraordinary—alas! nothing but what is of daily occurrence. But, sir, would it be believed, when not a single auctioneer belonging to the dominant sect in any neighbouring town, and that for many miles round, could be induced to undertake the disgraceful business, a dissenting church should turn out to be the lurking-place of the spoiler of his brethren's goods. I say, would this be believed? Yet such is the fact—a Mr Pope, as fate would have it—a member of the baptist church at Chesham, enjoying the enlightened and faithful ministry of the Rev. W. Payne, was the only man that could be found willing to lend himself for a dirty use. But he could be found, and, as I am informed, was able without much difficulty to quiet the quaking of his conscience, and silly enough to think that he should with equal ease still the voice of public indignation, by the miserable deception that "he did it in the way of business." No doubt he did it in the way of business, and so did Judas when he sold his master for thirty pieces of silver. Sir, I leave this simple statement of facts to do its legitimate work—to my mind it justifies, and more than justifies, the honest severity with which you have sometimes chastised dissenting recreants. It shows that much work of the same stamp yet remains to be done, before our churches become purged of their corruption, and can be expected to exhibit the loveliness of purity, and the efficiency of life and prosperity.

I am sir, yours, &c.,

S. E. L.

POLICY OF THE COMPLETE SUFFRAGE PARTY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—As it appears to me that the course taken by the complete suffrage party during the next few months will, in all probability, decide the future complexion of the movement for organic reform, I venture to offer a few remarks, and throw out a few suggestions, on one point that appears to me of very great importance—viz., the establishment of a system of tract distribution. I should think it is very probable that the council may have resolved upon some plan for that purpose; if so, my observations will be needless, and if not, they may direct a greater attention to the subject.

Now that the suffrage movement seems to be indulging a little breathing time, I cannot but think that, as there is not so urgent a necessity for active exertions at the present moment, it is essentially important that every preparation should be made for a fresh and vigorous campaign. No means of adding energy and influence to the movement ought to be neglected. The re-action that will result from the failure of the Anti-corn-law League, should they be able to make no impression on the present landlord parliament, will, in all probability, be proportionate to the previous efforts put forth. This feeling it will be the policy of the suffrage movement to increase, and to endeavour, if possible, to fix; for with the renewal of anti-corn-law agitation the middle classes, unless thoroughly grounded in complete suffrage principles, will be inclined to neglect the more remote for the more immediate advantage.

I think, therefore, that it would add immeasurably to the power of the Union to establish a depot for tracts in London. These tracts might embrace complete suffrage in its practical bearings on the circumstances of all classes; so that there might be specific appeals to men of every grade, somewhat on the plan of the Religious Tract society. In this manner special appeals might be made to dissenters, agriculturists, tradesmen, and, in fact, all classes of individuals. And next as to the composition of these tracts. It appears to me that they ought to be short and pointed—short enough to secure the attention of those who feel too little interest on the subject to give it a strict examination. And as to writers, I should think that any of the men of talent that take an interest in the movement (and they are not a few) would gladly lend their services for the purpose. Besides this, the abstract of the bill published by the Council might make a suitable tract for distribution. There have been many articles in the *Nonconformist*, more especially during the earlier part of last year, that might, I think, with great advantage be published separately in this form, especially as so many of them have been written to illustrate particular views, or answer particular objections. I have also noticed several articles in the *Eclectic Review*, one more especially that appeared in the last number, bearing on complete suffrage, that would be calculated to do good in that way. And then as to the expense. The outlay of such an undertaking might, at first, be somewhat considerable, but might soon be repaid if the Complete Suffrage Union adopted the plan of selling these publications to the local associations at cost price. The tracts might bear the name of the union on their title page, and thus that appearance of activity and business would be given to the movement which people always regard as an earnest of success.

It appears to me that this plan is exceedingly well adapted for work; and it is this after all that is likely alone to secure success. Before a local association is formed in any town, these "winged messengers" might be distributed and prepare the way for a lecture. After the formation of an association, and the adoption of a plan of organisation, what ought to be the course of procedure? To procure a sufficient number of copies of the abstract of the bill to supply the whole of the electoral strength of the place, so that none may be ignorant of its character. Then to resolve upon a canvass of the electors by the active individuals appointed for that purpose. How likely is such course of active organisation to be all the more successful after the distribution of these tracts—tracts, too, that are wisely adapted to the cases of the several individuals to whom they are distributed. The distribution of tracts might also be made where personal canvass is impracticable, or where it would be difficult to secure an audience for a lecturer, as in the case of the agricultural districts. The local asso-

citations would thus have real work to do, instead of meeting once a month to discuss a subject bearing on complete suffrage, and paying no proper attention to the object of their formation.

Suppose some such plan were well matured by the time that the Anti-corn-law League have finished their labours for the session, would not the Union be able to put forth a strength far superior to that which they have ever before been able to display? I think the mere act itself would create so much confidence in the public on the principles of complete suffrage, that great good would result to the cause, independent of the silent but real progress that the uninterrupted distribution of tracts would ensure.

I offer no apology for these few observations, as I am sure the council are at all times willing to receive the suggestions of the friends of the movement, whether feasible or not, and hoping that a vigorous plan of agitation may be adopted, I remain, your obedient servant,

A LONDON COMPLETE SUFFRAGIST.

London, January 16th.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The usual weekly meeting of the committee was held at the office, Birmingham, on Monday last, when the following business was transacted:—

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The sub-committee appointed to confer with Mr Sharman Crawford on the subject of moving in the house of Commons for leave to bring in the bill adopted by the late conference of complete suffrage delegates reported as follows:—

That on the 27th July last Mr Crawford entered the following notice on the books of the house:—

"To move for leave to bring in a bill to extend the parliamentary suffrage, and to make other alterations in the election laws, with a view to effect a full, fair, and free representation of the people in the Commons house of parliament (early next session)."

That the committee had ascertained that Mr Crawford was prepared to receive the bill adopted by the conference, and to propose it to parliament as containing the details by which the objects of his notice could be obtained. It may, therefore, be expected that Mr Crawford will move for leave to bring in this bill early next session.

"Resolved—That the report be received."

A letter was read from Mr J. H. Parry, announcing his resignation as a member of the council.

The committee appointed to ascertain which districts were most open to active exertion at the present time recommended that the council extend their organisation in the south-western district, and that a resolution be adopted advising the friends of the cause to procure the signatures of electors to the pledge.

"Resolved—That the report be received."

"Resolved—That Mr Clarke be re-appointed lecturer for the Union in the south-western district, on the understanding that his expense be paid by each place in which he may lecture."

"Resolved—That this council call the attention of the superintendents of districts and the friends of complete suffrage throughout the country, to the plan of future operations adopted at the late conference. And this council especially recommend the superintendents to adopt measures for obtaining an extensive signature to the league or pledge which was then prepared. And also to devise means to promote the increase of members of the Union; to procure requisitions to members of parliament to support Mr Crawford's motion; and to organise plans for obtaining funds in aid of the parliamentary and other general expenses."

The following is a copy of the "Electors' League":—

"DEEPLY impressed with the conviction of the evils arising from class legislation, and of the sufferings thereby inflicted upon our industrious fellow-subjects, we, the undersigned, do voluntarily agree to vote only for such candidates as will support, in the Commons' House of Parliament, a measure for securing to the whole people that full, fair, and free representation to which they are entitled alike by the great principles of Christian equity, and by the British constitution; and of which the primary feature shall be the extension of the elective franchise to every man of full age, who is not deprived of his rights of citizenship in consequence of the verdict of a jury of his countrymen."

Letters were read from H. Vincent; J. Dunlop, of Edinburgh; Richard Gardner, Preston; Charles Clarke, Bath; Edward Davey, Crediton; William Fraser, Ipswich; Isaac Rawntree, Bradford; Samuel Cobham, London; James Borthwick, Arbroath; B. Hague, Barnsley; James Allen, Sheffield; John Hilson, Jedburgh; Herbert Spencer, Derby; E. Hawkes, Kendal. The following letter was read from the Rev. Wm Leask:—

"Chapmanslade, near Frome, 14 Jan., 1843.

"DEAR SIR—I had the pleasure to receive your note of the 10th, which must have passed my reply to your letter of the 4th.

"In answer to your question whether I think this a favourable time for moving forward on the suffrage question in my district, I unhesitatingly answer—Yes; and I submit to the council the following considerations in support of this opinion:—The principles we advocate are in themselves just; strictly in accordance with the theory of representative government; in unison with the leading features of practical Christianity; and calculated to gain the adhesion of every patriotic mind. Having ascertained this, our course is clear. Any other inducement to exertion is necessarily subordinate. Favourable prospects doubtless have a cheering tendency; but adverse influences do not impair the intrinsic value of the principles themselves. 'He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.' Anything indicating a relaxation of zeal on our part, at the present moment, would seriously cripple our future movement. The result of the late conference is precisely such as might have been anticipated—namely, the creation of a 'spirit of inquiry' The country, so far as I can ascertain, wants to know why the conference met, what it did, what it proposed to be done, what principles it adopted, and what it rejected. These questions ought to be answered immediately. I

cannot agree with any line of policy which suggests even a temporary pause in our replies to such questions.

"Moreover, the imposing position in which the Anti-corn-law League stands at the present moment, attracting at once the attention of the manufacturing and landed interests, and that of government, presents a strong argument for an immediate appeal to the electors of this country, to admit their unfranchised countrymen within the pale of civil power. This proposition, which at first sight may appear doubtful, is easily explained. Government will not abolish the corn laws. I assume this; and it is not a very wild assumption. Thousands of persons, however, are credulous enough to believe that in the next session of parliament those hateful laws will be erased from the statute book. They will be grievously disappointed. That disappointment will open their eyes to the grand secret that the food monopoly is a creature of class legislation, and the result will be this:—They will look about for some source of hope—some means by which England may be saved from irremediable destruction—and as one man they will rally around the standard of complete suffrage. They will examine the principles of the 'Bill of Rights,' give in their adhesion to those principles, and by one united struggle of a people deeply in earnest, that noble document will, in all its essentials, become the law of England. Let the Bill of Rights, therefore, be kept before the public eye, and the disinterested friend of his country and his species will not have reason to fold his hands in despair.

"But suppose the corn law is abolished next session. What then? It will not be by a voluntary act of the present government. It will be only in consequence of 'the pressure from without.' National irritation may be soothed for a time, but the power to re-impose obnoxious laws remains; this country wants good, cheap, just government. The corn law, mischievous as it is (and that I believe it to be so is evidenced by the fact that I have both written and spoken against it), is only one of the family of anti-national imposts. Will its removal be a substitute for the possession of that political enfranchisement which we claim as a right? Where is your security against future injustice? The working man wants something more than food and raiment; he wants to be acknowledged as a citizen—he wants a guarantee for the continuance of food and raiment—he wants to be delivered from pauperism by obtaining employment; but he also wants to be delivered from political degradation by obtaining a voice in the House of Commons. Whatever may be the result, therefore, so far as the corn law or any similar impost is concerned, the question at issue between the electors and non-electors remains unchanged. We must, consequently, keep the fact before the country; for on its reception or rejection depends the permanent prosperity or deterioration of everything dear to us as lovers of equity and truth.

"So much for the general question. As to your suggestion in reference to the south-western district in particular, I think it really important. Lectures by the Rev. Thomas Spencer always tell on his hearers. He is an honour to any cause with which he identifies himself. His nobleness of spirit and self-possession give him great moral influence, and I doubt not he will agree with the suggestion in your note. I have had two or three invitations to speak on this question, and I am ready to do so as soon as the particular matter to which I referred in my last is settled. It will engage my attention for two weeks longer; after which, if health permit, my humble efforts shall be occasionally devoted to the suffrage question—that is, so long as those efforts do not interfere with those higher duties to which I am voluntarily bound. I am, dear sir, yours respectfully,

W. LEASK."

Nearly all the letters read contained strong expressions of approval of the course taken by the minority at the late conference.

A LIST of the Delegates who attended the Conference which was constituted by the following resolution, after the division on Mr Beggs's motion:—

"That having been called together to consider the essential details to an act of parliament necessary for securing the just representation of the whole adult male population of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; and such act of parliament having been prepared by the council who called the convention, and the majority of the persons present having refused to receive it as the basis of their discussions, that is, to proceed with the business for which they had been summoned, we, who voted in favour of taking the bill as the basis of our discussions, do now proceed to the business we had been assembled to transact. That all delegates willing to comply with the course of business prescribed by the terms of the invitation be considered as members of this body."

Alnwick	Rev. Jos. Price Jos. Foster, Green Bat cottage, Alnwick
Aberdeen	Jas Atkinson, Birmingham S. Haycock, Woodcock st, ditto Jas H. Wilson, Aberdeen John Mitchell, ditto
Airdrie	William Brodie
Arbroath	Charles Crawford, Crawfords- bourne, Ireland
Banbury	R. K. Philp Edmund French
Bath	Rev. T. Spencer, Hinton
Birmingham	Francis Parkes A. G. O'Neill
Bradford (Wilts)	G. Rolf, Bradford C. Traman, Birmingham
Bridgwater	Thos Hill, Bridgwater F. J. Thompson
Bridport	Charles Sturge, Birmingham
Bristol	Charles Clarke, Bath
Cambridge	Joseph Johnson Thos Woods Richard Thurlborn John W. Winfield, Birmingham John Hunt, ditto Wm Hollis, Cheltenham
Cheltenham	Augustus Newton
Colchester	Edward Miall, London
Cradley	John Blanchfield
Crediton	Jonathan Burridge Samuel Sidwell, Bath
Cupar	William Morgan
Daneshalt	Jas Adams, Summer lane, Birm.
Dalkeith	John Thomason

Dunfermline	J. P. Rodger, Glasgow
Derby	Andrew Fleming G. Stevenson, Derby Herbert Spencer
Dundee	O. J. Rowland, Dundee
Do, and Ceres, and Bristol	Arthur Albright, Birmingham
Devizes	G. W. Anstie Rev. G. Wessley Charles Watson Wm. Akerman E. Davy
Exeter	Rev. Dr Ritchie, Edinburgh
Edinburgh	John Dunlop, ditto W. Cooper, Birmingham Josiah Pumphrey, Birmingham
Forfar	John Cluer
Falmouth & Leslie	William Fraser
Finsbury, London	Henry Vincent
Ipswich	Rev. W. Robinson Jos. Cobby, Birmingham G. B. Haynes, ditto B. Beesley, ditto Josh Perry, Birmingham Jos. Gardner, Birmingham
Kettering	John Field, Birmingham
Kirkcaldy	James Towell, King's Lynn Francis Evans Isaac Peterkin, jun. Benjamin Carter Wm Tullis, Rothes cottage, Markinch
Kendal	Richard Jenkinson
Ditto and Bradford, Wilts	J. A. Lander, Birmingham J. C. Perry, Birmingham Samuel Fox, Nottingham
King's Lynn	Samuel Wilcke Jas Thompson, Gilmore James Dixon Samuel Bean Thomas Beggs F. Lord J. Greaves, Saddleworth W. C. Pattison
Kirkmuir	Patrick Brewster, Paisley
Market Harboro'	Joseph Corbett, Birmingham
Markinch	Lynn
Melksham	Pollockshaws and Charles M'Ewen, Glasgow
Newburgh	Rutherglen
Newcastle-on-Tyne	Royton
Northwich	James Mills, Higher moor Thomas Lees, Higginshaw George Goodrick, Birmingham Jabez Vines, Reading
Nottingham	Henry Sansum Rev. T. Swan, Birmingham George Lambert, Sudbury Robert Wright, ditto Rev. W. Stokes, West Bromwich
Oldham	T. H. Morgan W. Leask James Henderson John P. Reid, Glasgow James Williams Joseph Sturge, Birmingham
Paisley	Thomas Thompson Walter Inglis F. Warren William Brannan Griffith Evans
Paisley, Jedburgh, and Renfrew	Daniel Taylor Rowlinson Joseph Shepherd John Collins, Birmingham
Paisley and King's Lynn	W. Taylor J. F. Taylor James Butler, Banbury
Pollockshaws and Rutherglen	Robert Hardy Henry Stone Charles Sharp John Hawkins
Royton	The following persons, whose names are not included in the above list, voted in the minority who supported Mr Beggs's motion:—
Reading	Richard Dell Thomas Pierce
Renfrew	Richard Whiteman
Sudbury	Lawrence Heyworth Francis Cooper John Powell
Stewarton	
Stourbridge	
Stirling	
Saltscoats	
Sunderland	
Sunderland and Edinburgh	
Sunderland	
Stonehouse	
Salford	
Taunton	
Towyn (Merioneth-shire)	
Tunbridge	
Warwick	
Westbury	
Woodbridge	
Wootton-under-Edge	
Worcester	

COST OF THE PEOPLE'S BILL OF RIGHTS.—According to the *Patriot*, Mr Joseph Sturge paid an eminent barrister fifty pounds to prepare the document which O'Connor and his tail would not allow to be read at the late Birmingham conference. [This, like several other things mentioned in the same article, was invented, we imagine, for the occasion, inasmuch as there exists not a shadow of foundation upon which the assertion can rest. In other words, it is a purely gratuitous falsehood.]

LEICESTER.—ORGANISATION.—A general meeting of the members of the Leicester Complete Suffrage association, was held in the Town hall on Thursday evening, to consider a requisition which had been forwarded to the committee by a number of the members, requesting that a special general meeting of the members should be called "to consider the best means of making the association more influential in its character, and of infusing into its operations greater vigour and efficiency;" Mr Manning in the chair. Mr J. T. Collier, in a short address, explained the object desired by the requisitionists. They proposed that the town be divided into districts, and that the members in each district meet together and elect a secretary, who shall be expected to transact the business of his district, to attend to the instruc-

tions of the general secretary, and to give in some report of the proceedings at the monthly meetings. The district secretaries and members would also feel bound to do whatever they thought would assist the suffrage cause, in their own district, without waiting for instructions from the general committee; and thus an efficient organisation would be established, which would enable them to take an active part in future municipal or parliamentary elections. Several resolutions were then proposed and carried, on the subject of the late conference and the organisation of the town, for which see our advertising columns. On the motion of Mr Collier, sen., it was resolved that the subject for discussion at the next meeting should be "The best mode of organising the society," instead of the subject standing upon the minutes.

CAMBRIDGE.—A public meeting of the electors and non-electors of Cambridge was held on Wednesday evening, the 11th inst., at the large room, White Bear, Magdalen street, to receive the report of the delegates returned from the Birmingham conference. Mr Edmund Wells occupied the chair; and, having briefly stated the object of the meeting, called upon the delegates to make their report. Mr Woods immediately arose, and after expressing his satisfaction at meeting them again in so good a cause, recapitulated the proceedings of the conference down to the motion made by Mr Beggs of Nottingham, and the amendment with which it was met by Mr Lovett—justified the course adopted by the council and the minority, as every point worth contending for was embodied in the bill prepared by the council of the Complete Suffrage Union. After slightly touching upon the other points, and glancing at the business of the conference after the separation, Mr Woods urged upon the meeting the necessity of making known these principles by discussing them with their fellow men—that no one ought to think his individual exertions lost in his attempts to further these great objects, though he might not immediately see the fruit of his labour. Mr Thurlborn then stated to the meeting the course he felt it his duty to pursue. He said that by voting for the original motion, he thought that he was not only carrying out the views and feelings of his constituents, but forwarding the great principles which the Complete Suffrage Union had called them together to consider. The meeting having been informed (in answer to an inquiry made) that the delegates at Birmingham, who were appointed to act with the two sent from Cambridge, voted in the same way as did the two from Cambridge; a vote of thanks was proposed to the four delegates, which being seconded, was carried unanimously, and votes of thanks were subsequently passed to the committee, Mr Jerrold the secretary, and the Chairman.

WORCESTER.—A meeting of the members of the Worcester Complete Suffrage association took place on Monday the 9th inst., at their room in Lowesmoor, to hear the report of the delegates to the late conference. After transacting local business, the delegates gave a lucid account of the proceedings at Birmingham. After which, Mr Powell, of Friar street, proposed a vote of thanks to the four delegates that represented them in the conference. Samuel Darke said he had much pleasure in seconding it, because he knew all were satisfied with their conduct. An expression of satisfaction was given of the conduct of Joseph Sturge in the chair, and also of the national council.

WOODBRIDGE.—The Complete Suffrage association in this town makes rapid progress, already numbering among its members those who are in possession of the elective franchise. At a meeting held this week, for the purpose of appointing officers and a committee for the present year, and for the settlement of other business, one of the delegates who had been appointed to attend at Birmingham was present, and gave in his report with reference to the proceedings of the recent conference. The society was gratified on finding that the vote of the Woodbridge representative had been recorded in favour of the Bill of Rights being taken as the basis of discussion—that the bill prepared by the council agreeably to invitation was so discussed, and that it is to be submitted to parliament by W. S. Crawford, Esq., in the course of the approaching session, T. S. Duncombe, Esq., and the other liberal members of the house being called upon to support it; and so far from considering the conference as being a failure (where be it remembered all were agreed as to fundamental principles), because some who were never united with the suffragists chose to adopt an irregular mode of proceeding, a great portion of whom afterwards withdrew from their party and went over to the assembly who were legitimately the conference, they fully concur in the course taken by Mr Sturge and his friends, being of opinion, from what they have ascertained from other places as well as their own neighbourhood, that the same augurs well for the cause, and that it will turn to the furtherance of the same; as doubtless many will be induced forthwith to identify themselves with the movement, who, at the same time that they coincide with the objects of the association, would not wish to have such objects brought about otherwise than by peaceable and moral endeavours.—*Suffolk Chronicle*.

BRADFORD, YORK.—A meeting of the members of the Complete Suffrage Union of this town, was held on Tuesday the 10th inst., to receive the report of their delegate to the Birmingham conference. It was resolved that a committee appointed to make arrangements for a new room continue their services. Mr Driver, the delegate from the complete suffrage party, then made his report, from which it appeared, that he voted for Mr Lovett's amendment. Great dissatisfaction was expressed by many of the members present, at his conduct on that occasion, and a vote of censure was proposed, but subsequently withdrawn.

ABERDEEN.—A public meeting was held on Monday evening, the 9th inst., for the purpose of receiving the report of Messrs Wilson and Mitchell, as delegates to the Birmingham conference. The meeting was well attended; and Mr John M'Pherson, manufacturer, having been called to the chair, introduced Mr Mitchell with a few pointed observations. Mr Mitchell, before entering upon the business of the evening, gave an explanation of Mr Wilson's absence, and stated that the night of meeting had been fixed with the understanding that Mr W. would be with them; he, however, had not arrived, and it therefore devolved upon him (Mr M.) to go over the whole sittings of the conference, which he should endeavour to do as briefly as possible. Mr Mitchell then gave a clear and interesting account of the various questions which had been discussed, and pointed out a number of decided improvements which had been introduced into the bill drawn up by the complete suffrage council, and now adopted by the complete suffrage delegates who met after the division on Mr Beggs' motion, and who held their separate conference—the number being one hundred and twenty delegates. At the close of Mr Mitchell's report many severe remarks were made by several parties on his conduct in seceding from the chartists, and a great many questions were asked in reference to it. Mr Mitchell, however, so ably replied to all the objections that the opposition soon died away, and the meeting passed a vote of thanks to Mr Mitchell for his services.

PAISLEY.—On Monday evening, the 9th inst., a general meeting of the members of the Complete Suffrage association was held in the Exchange rooms, to hear the report of the delegates to the Birmingham conference, and to transact other business connected with the association. On the motion of Mr Brewster, seconded by Mr Wood, vice-president, Mr M'Nair was called to the chair, who, after having read the placard calling the meeting, introduced Mr Brewster to give an account of his mission. After detailing the events preceding the separation of the conference, Mr Brewster gave an account of the proceedings of the complete suffragists after they had separated from the chartists, and pointed out to them several clauses in the bill which they had altered, and said it was a measure of reform much more liberal than the charter itself. He believed the cause of complete suffrage had gained by the separation which had taken place. Many of their friends remaining with the chartists, an amicable and friendly feeling had been kept up. It was said that they would have now to go over to the corn-law repealers after what had taken place; but no, they would have to come over to them. The reverend gentleman having spoken nearly two hours, sat down amidst great applause. Mr Cochrane also gave an account of his mission, and said he had voted for Mr Beggs' motion, but afterwards joined the majority. He thought the movement had sustained great hazard by the division. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr Brewster in preference to an amendment, proposing the same to Mr Cochrane; but at the intercession of Mr Brewster, Mr Cochrane received the thanks of the meeting likewise.

General News.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The French Chambers were opened on Monday, the 9th inst., when the king delivered the following speech:—

"Gentlemen Peers and Deputies:—

"The affection and sympathy of France have sustained my courage. Heart-broken, but full of confidence in your devotion, in calling you thus again to renew your labours, I wished to finish to-day what my grief had forced me to leave incomplete at the opening of the session. You have already done much for the security and future welfare of France: I thank you for it in her name. Whatever may be our trials, I and mine will consecrate to your service the strength and life God shall give us.

"Thanks to peace and order, the national prosperity, attested by the rapid increase of the national revenue, displays itself beyond the most favourable hopes. The firm empire of the laws is the surest pledge of the well-being of all, as of the strength of the state. And the conviction everywhere established that the laws will be religiously enforced, renders their severity less frequent. I rejoice that we have attained this happy result.

"I am confident that our prosperity will continue its course without interruption, and without impediment. My relations with foreign powers continue friendly and pacific.

"The understanding between the powers has strengthened the repose of the East, and brought about the re-establishment of an administration conformable to the faith and wishes of the Christian population in Syria.

"I deplore the disturbances that have recently agitated Spain. In my relations with the Spanish monarchy I have only the protection of our legitimate interests in view, to preserve for Queen Isabella II. a sincere friendship, and to testify for the rights of humanity that helpful respect which does honour to the name of France.

"In taking possession of the Marquesas islands I have secured to our navigators in distant seas a support and refuge, the necessity of which has been long felt.

"Thanks to the persevering efforts of our brave army, our domination in Algeria becomes throughout firm and respected. The vigilance and regularity of the administration will terminate the undertaking so gloriously pursued by the courage of our soldiers.

"I have entered upon negotiations with several states, which will have the effect of impressing upon our agriculture, upon our commerce and industry, a more active impulse, to procure to our national interests fresh facilities.

"The financial laws and various projects of law which are intended to operate upon our legislation and our administration, with important ameliorations, will be laid before you forthwith.

"Gentlemen, the world is at peace. France is free, active, and happy. I have had, and shall have, for objects, until the last hour of my existence, to secure these benefits to my country. It is with your loyal and constant concurrence that I shall succeed. You will assist me in attaining and carrying out our common undertaking; it will be for all the most worthy recompense, and for myself the only consolation which I can henceforth hope for."

Both the French and English papers are unanimous in characterising the speech as nearly null. The former, however, for the most part warmly approve that passage in it which, by implication, lauds the conduct of the French consul at Barcelona.

The French troops left in occupation of their new acquisition (the Marquesas) have not been left long in peaceable possession, as the following article from the *Moniteur* unfortunately shows:—

"A report of Captain Vrignaud, commander of the Boussole, stationed off the Marquesas islands, contains the account of a melancholy event which occurred there, on the 18th of September last. Captain Halley, governor of the island of Christine, wished to compel the chief of the natives to quit the bay adjoining the fort. On the refusal of Joutati, M. Halley and Lieutenant de Ladebat, having gone out to meet him, were mortally wounded by two shots, fired by natives lying in ambush on their passage. The captain of the Bucephale had assumed the command of the island, and was able to repel all further aggression."

The reference in the King's speech to the hourly increasing prosperity of the country, did not at all satisfy the majority of the journals, as they assert the taxes, not the prosperity of the country, are daily augmenting. The increase of expenditure above the revenue, including 43,500,000f. which will be required for the construction of railways, amounts to 77,285,344f. In addition to the above, there will probably be a compensation of 40,000,000f. to indemnify the beet-root sugar growers.

The French ministry obtained a signal triumph over, not merely the opposition, but the Molé party, in the formation of the *bureaux* (committee to draw up an address in answer to the King's speech), and the nomination of the commission of the address. Only one member of opposition, M. Barrot, was appointed. All the others are of M. Guizot's opinions.

The discussions that took place during these elections, were chiefly on the "right of search" question, and great acrimony was evinced by all parties. MM. Guizot and Duchatel nobly stood forward in defence of the treaties of 1831 and of 1833, and declared that they would execute them so long as the slave-trade should continue to exist, and that in furtherance of that resolve they would renew the licenses whenever they should expire. Three other ministers, however, the ministers of commerce, public works, and finance, were almost neutral on the question. So that, though eight out of the nine members of the committee are ministerialists, only four of that number are in favour of the maintenance of the treaties of 1831 and 1833 on the subject of the "right of search."

The Chamber of Deputies met on Thursday to elect a fourth vice-president in the room of General Jacqueminot. Before the opening of the ballot M. Lanjuinais moved that copies of the treaties of 1831 and 1833, relative to the right of search, be communicated to the Chamber, together with the names and number of cruisers stationed by England and France on the western coast of Africa. M. Guizot said that he had no objection to make those communications, but that he could not pledge himself to give an accurate return of the cruisers. The Chamber then proceeded with the ballot for the election of the fourth vice-president, which terminated without any result. The numbers of voters was 307, and the majority required 154. M. Lepelletier de Aulnay, the ministerial candidate, obtained 149; M. Vivien, the opposition candidate, 114; M. Wustemberg, 20; M. Jacques Lefevre, 17; M. Dufaure, 2; and M. Guizot, 2.

The *Constitutionnel* rectifies in the following terms the statement of the *Univers*, respecting the reply made by the Spanish minister for foreign affairs to certain reclamations of the French cabinet:—"According to the information we have collected the reply of the Spanish government to the demand of satisfaction, on the part of France, was communicated verbally by the *Chargé d'Affaires* of Spain to M. Guizot, who invited him to commit that reply to writing. M. Hernandez, obeying both his own opinion and the advice given to him by the ambassador of England, abstained from making a communication which might have widened the breach already existing between the two governments. On the other hand, the reparations demanded were not refused in the note in question, but merely eluded. There are at this moment two points in litigation between the two governments; Spain has demanded the recall of M. Lesseps, which the French cabinet has positively refused. On her side, France has demanded reparations from Spain, which have not yet been granted."

The *Times* of yesterday gives the following—

"The outcry against England raised by the Paris journals in general, and the avidity with which all seize and publish matter in any way unfavourable to this country, were producing their fruits. We learn by our private letters of Saturday, that so much excited had the public mind become, and so overwhelming appeared the opposition to the extension of the relations of France and England, that the treaty of commerce, in which some progress had actually been made, and which one of our evening contemporaries announced on Wednesday had been signed, has fallen to the ground. Our letter states further, that it was rather generally believed that a paragraph calling for the modification of the treaties of 1831 and 1833 would be introduced into the address of the Chamber of Deputies, and that it might possibly be viewed by ministers as an indication that the Chamber would insist upon their proposing such modification. We find, also, that some apprehension existed lest that, in dealing with the Spanish question, the Chamber should express itself in terms that might not be agreeable to the Spanish government. Our correspondent mentions, in the postscript of his letter, that it was understood on Saturday that the demands made by M. Guizot of the Spanish government (an apology for the article in the *Madrid Gazette*, &c.) had not been conveyed in writing, and that consequently an accommodation was practicable."

The Paris papers of Friday announce the election of M. Lepelletier d'Aulnay as vice-president of the Chamber of Deputies; and although he is not a

ministerialist, it may be considered a species of triumph of the cabinet, by whose aid only could he have carried his election.

SPAIN.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 4th instant publishes the following decree of the Regent:—

"As Regent of the kingdom during the minority of Queen Isabel II., and in her royal name, and with the advice of the ministers, and in virtue of the prerogative granted to me by the 26th article of the constitution, I have decreed the following:—

"Art. 1. The Chamber of Deputies is dissolved.

"Art. 2. Agreeably to the 19th article of the constitution, one-third of the members of the senate shall be renewed.

"Art. 3. The new ordinary Cortes are convoked at Madrid, for the 3rd of April of the present year.

"Madrid, Jan. 3, 1843.

"DUKE OF VICTORY."

"To the Marquis de Rodil, President of the Council of Ministers."

This decree produced a most lively sensation in Madrid. The ministry, which took upon itself the responsibility of so bold a measure, did not appear disposed to retire from office. Nevertheless, it was believed that the cabinet would, ere long, be modified, and that Messrs Gonzalez and Infante would enter the administration for the purpose of directing the elections.

The editors of the independent papers drew up and signed, on the 3d, a declaration against the conclusion of a treaty of commerce with Great Britain. It was signed by thirteen opposition journals.

The *Madrid Gazette* of the 5th instant publishes a circular from the Minister of the Interior, ordering the political chiefs to convoke immediately the provincial deputations, for the purpose of proceeding to elect members to congress. The electoral lists are to be closed on the 28th instant, and to remain posted until the 15th of February. The elections are to commence on the 27th of February in the chief town of each district, and the general examination of the ballots is to take place on the 10th of March in the capital of each province.

Letters from Barcelona state that the sums paid on account of the extraordinary contribution of 12,000,000 reals did not amount, on the 5th, the last day named by the Captain-general, to more than 774,621 reals. The British frigate *Belvidera* sailed for Gibraltar on the 5th, and the *Cyclops*, for Mahon, on the next day.

The solemnity of Twelfth-day had attracted a large concourse of visitors to the salons of the palace of Buena Vista. Count d'Asalto, the chamberlain, had given notice to the *corps diplomatique* that the Regent would receive them on that day between one and two o'clock. Since the time of Ferdinand VII. no reception at court had been attended with so much *déclat*, and many persons present could not help observing that it formed a strange contrast with the modest declarations of the man whose sole ambition was to retire into private life.

It was still rumoured that Messrs Gonzalez and Alonso, but particularly M. Infante, would shortly re-enter the cabinet.

The members of the coalition had held a meeting, at which they agreed to draw up a manifesto to the nation in justification of their conduct since the 28th of May last. This document was to be prepared by M. Cortina.

Unless the inhabitants of Barcelona pay the amount of the war contribution by the time specified, the captain-general threatens to quarter a number of soldiers on each defaulter, whom he shall be compelled to provide for, at an expense progressively increasing in proportion to the delay; and, if that measure should prove inefficient, I will recur to others more energetic, and will take steps against the members of the municipality themselves, should they continue to evince ill-will, and persevere in their passive resistance.

The Ayuntamiento had issued a *bando*, ordering the proprietors of property to appear before the collectors in order to pay 40 per cent. on the revenue of their property.

Letters of the 8th inst. state, that the greatest effervescence prevailed in that city in consequence of the *bando* issued by the municipality at the desire of Captain-general Seoane. Not more than 27 citizens had, in compliance with the General's injunction, presented themselves to pay their quota of the extraordinary contribution, of which only about £8,000 had as yet been collected. Many of the inhabitants were determined to leave the city rather than obey the orders of the state-of-siege authorities, and others had resolved on opposing passive resistance, and allowing their property to be seized sooner than submit to the exaction.

AMERICA.

The British and North American royal mail steamer *Britannia*, Captain Hewitt, which sailed from Boston on the afternoon of the 1st, and Halifax on the night of the 3rd instant, arrived at Liverpool on Sunday night. She encountered dreadful weather during the passage, and felt the full effects of the hurricane on Friday last. She has, notwithstanding, made the voyage in under 14 days from port to port.

The news brought by the *Britannia* is eleven days late, and by the last arrival, but is unimportant.

The New York papers of the latest date are filled with reports of the proceedings of the court-martial instituted for the trial of the mutineers of the United States ship of war *Somers*, which was sitting on board the *Carolina*, at New York. The mutiny was the prevailing topic of conversation.

The proceedings in congress were of the ordinary kind. The subjects before it were purely domestic. Allusion had been made to the Oregon terri-

tory, on a motion being made for papers concerning it. The government seemed to be blamed for having passed the subject over in the negotiations between them and Lord Ashburton.

The following are the most important items of news gleaned from various sources. The *New York American* says—

"The year closes upon us without much, in our commercial and financial situation, to look back upon with satisfaction, or look forward to with hope.

"The same general disease still pervades the country—the want of a general currency, and the violent contractions of all the local banks, which have, in fact, in some portions of the United States, brought back the old system of barter, for want of any circulating representative of property.

"Congress has been in session nearly a month, and, although a good deal has been done of routine business, nothing has ever been said as to any of the schemes for receiving, safely keeping, and disbursing the revenue of the government, and incidentally of creating some sort of national currency; nor do we believe that any one of the various projects broached for these purposes stands the least chance of success. There remain but two months more of the session, and of this brief existence but little, we apprehend, will be conceded to exchequer crudities.

"The secretary of the treasury's report shows, upon estimate, a more favourable prospect for the future than we had hoped for. He looks forward to a surplus in June, 1844.

"No movement at all, indicating what may be in reserve as to the tariff, has yet been made in either house."

From the correspondent of the *Chronicle* we learn that Mr Linn has introduced a bill in the Senate, having for its object the immediate occupation of the Oregon territory, a portion of which is, as you are aware, claimed by Great Britain. This bill will give rise to much discussion. It is set down for debate to-day, and it is probable that a majority of the western members will vote for it.

Several cotton mills have lowered their wages 20 per cent. A number of the girls employed at Lowell have left in consequence. What a commentary on the high tariff? To pass that, everything was promised to the operatives, who now complain that their wages are being lowered all over the country, so that they derive no advantage from either the tariff or the cheapness and abundance of provisions. Three slaves were shot at Baton Rouge a few days since—one for raising a spade against his master, and two for endeavouring to escape from their owners.

The accounts from Kingston seem contradictory as to the state of Sir C. Bagot's health. The latest bulletin issued represented his excellency to be in a very low state.

No later accounts had been received from Mexico or Yucatan. There are recent accounts from Texas, but they are unimportant. The Congress was in session, and the President had transmitted his message, which had caused great dissatisfaction. Of the Mexican relations it gives no good account; its tone is regarded as opposed to any active hostilities against Mexico. It says little concerning the navy, and represents the general condition of the country as deplorable, its resources crippled, its circulation valueless, and its credit extinguished.

PERU.—The news from Peru is important. Herceles, a young general who was banished some time since from Peru, had secretly returned with about 300 men, and in a battle with the General Torrico, who had a much larger force, obtained a complete victory, destroying a great number of the enemy. He has possession now of all the northern provinces in Peru, with a large force under his command, which is increasing daily. Peru was never in so unsettled a state as it now is, and there are no prospects of peace for some time.

PORTUGAL.

Advices from Lisbon come down to the 9th inst. The Chambers at Lisbon had been occupied with routine business and the verifications of the late elections. The ministers were submitting to the Chambers a statement of the various measures adopted by them during the recess, preparatory to the proposition of a bill of indemnity, and the Queen's speech had not yet been taken into consideration.

The finance minister was about to seek powers to raise upon the tobacco contract a sum of 900 contos. The negotiations for the tariff convention remained in the same position, with the exception that fresh reductions had been demanded by our foreign office. The Portuguese were thoroughly frightened at last.

It was understood that a bill was about to be brought in, settling the Manco question, and putting all other foreigners on the same footing as British subjects by the new treaty; that is, liable to pay as the Portuguese, but with the same guarantees against abuse which British subjects possess. If the French are not satisfied with this (says the *Chronicle*), they will apparently get nothing more. And with respect to Manco, it is monstrous to suppose that many hundreds of French retail traders can expect to keep shop in Lisbon, and refuse to pay the taxes to which the native inhabitants are liable.

The French and English line-of-battle ships still remained watching each other.

BRAZIL.

The *Express* packet, Lieutenant Herrick, brings intelligence from Rio de Janeiro to the 27th of November. The *Chronicle* says, "This vessel brings intelligence which will be welcomed very heartily by our Brazil merchants, inasmuch that the Hon. E. Ellis had been most favourably received by the Emperor and his court, and though there was a good

deal of opposition to the tariff proposed by England, yet the predominant feeling was in its favour, and it is fully anticipated that the envoy will be able to come to such an issue as will enliven the intercourse between England and the Brazils. The French appear to be blustering very loudly against the favourable footing which the British are about to gain in the Brazilian trade. The presentation of the right honourable gentleman took place on the 19th, when his excellency was received with the honours paid to an ambassador. His address, beside the usual complimentary nothings, requested a private audience of the Emperor. The reply of his Imperial Majesty was as follows:—

"You may assure your august Sovereign, that this additional proof of her friendship is very gratifying, and is highly esteemed by me."

The private audience solicited by his excellency is, we understand, appointed for the 2nd of January.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—In the Cape of Good Hope papers of the 6th of November, is contained the confirmation of the accounts published in the journals received at the latter end of last week, of the interference by the Boers beyond the Orange river, with the territory allowed by the English government to remain in the possession of the aborigines. These state the Boers to be still unwilling to succumb to British supremacy, averring that their friends at Port Natal have only granted a truce for six months, at the expiration of which period, should their independence not be recognised, they will be again ready to commence hostilities.

VAN DIEMAN'S LAND.—A letter from Van Dieman's Land, dated the 14th of July, mentions the discovery of a very fine copper mine on the estate of a Mr Grant, near Fingal, and about 70 miles from Launceston. It is said that copper is a product hitherto unknown in that country.

EARTHQUAKE.—Extract of a letter dated Calcutta, Nov. 14:—"We had an earthquake here on the 11th inst. It did not last more than one minute, which was quite long enough. I was reading up stairs, when suddenly the windows rattled, and the walls rocked to and fro. I felt my chair moving under me. If it had lasted much longer, it would have done great damage. For fifteen minutes afterwards I felt the same sensation as after you have been electrified with the machine."

RUSSIA.—The last official census of Russia gives the following as the population of the chief towns of the empire:—St Petersburg, 470,202 souls; Moscow, 349,068; Odessa, 60,055; Kronstadt, 54,717; Wilna, 54,499; Toula, 51,735; Kiev, 47,424; Astrakan, 45,938; Casan, 41,304; Sebastopol, 31,155; Darnat, 12,203; Abo, 13,050; Hel-singfors, 12,725. Warsaw has 140,571 inhabitants.

EVIDENCE OF CIVILISATION.—Nelson is beginning to give evidence of the arrival of civilised men on the shores of New Zealand, for it has now a gaol or lock-up house, backed by the stocks.—*Nelson Examiner*.

The *Frankfort Journal* of the 9th instant states that the Emperor of Russia, by an ukase dated the 14th ult., has modified the Russian tariff, so as to facilitate the importation of linen, cotton, and woolen cloths and silk mercery.

SLAVERY IN TUNIS.—Advices from Tunis of the 20th ult., published by the *Journal des Debats*, announce that the Bey had, of his own free will, proclaimed the freedom of the children of slaves hereafter born in the regency. A fortuitous circumstance led to the adoption of that measure. A black family, doomed to be sold separately, had taken refuge in the house of M. de Lagau, the consul-general of France, and claimed his protection. The next morning M. de Lagau waited on the Bey, and his highness was so moved by the painful picture which the consul drew of the wretched fate which awaited that family that, after interrogating the father and mother, he ordered his minister to purchase them and treat them with the greatest kindness, and then, turning to their child, he told him that he was free, and solemnly declared that all the children who should hereafter be born in the regency should be free. This decision was immediately promulgated, and was to be strictly executed.

AMSTERDAM.—A great number of the principal commercial houses of this city have signed a petition to the second chamber of the states general, containing numerous objections of our merchants to the treaty concluded with Belgium on the 5th of November last year. Private letters received at Rotterdam, state, that on the 9th of September last, another fire took place at Soerbaja, which reduced to ashes 900 houses, of which 400 were of brick and roofed with tiles. The particulars are not known; but it is believed that the Commercial company has not suffered any loss on this occasion.

RISE OF THE SEINE.—The Seine rose during Wednesday night and Thursday morning 1 metre 10 centimetres (about 3 feet 7 inches), and at twelve o'clock marked 4 metres 70 centimetres by the scale on the bridges. The water covered entirely the piers up to the cornice, and threatens to invade very shortly the iron arches. All the wharfs of Paris, and the cellars near the shore at Bercy, are inundated, and the landing places both above and below the city, are completely submerged. The road between the end of Bercy and Charenton is impassable for foot passengers, and the water is beginning to reach the pavement. On the other side of the river, the road to Ivry is covered to the depth of more than a foot and a half in several places.

GOLD IN RUSSIA.—It appears such is the prodigious increase of washed gold in Russia, and especially in Siberia, to the east of the southern chain of



the Ural, that the total produce in the year 1842 amounted to 16,000 kilogrammes, of which Siberia alone furnished 7,800 kilogrammes. This is the produce to the Russian government, but we have reason to believe that the real amount of produce is larger, and that five per cent in value is secreted by the agents who are employed to superintend the operations.—*Galignani's Messenger*.

DOMESTIC.

LAW AND POLICE.

In the court of Bankruptcy on Thursday, Thomas Hague, who was connected with a scandalous paper called the *Paul Pry*, applied to be relieved under the new Insolvent Debtors act. His debts were set down at £316, and his credits at £4860, but it is understood they will realise next to nothing. He was opposed, and in the course of an examination which followed, he was called upon to account for the receipt of two sums of £50 each from the present Duke of Buckingham. He stated that it was from the very exalted opinion his Grace entertained of services rendered by him to the late Duke. He declared it was not remuneration for suppressing a libel. The services performed were to the father. They were of a private nature, but had nothing to do with a case of libel. He had had some transactions in which he had an opportunity of obliging the late Duke. Sir C. F. Williams: How? The insolvent: You will excuse me for not mentioning what it is. Sir C. F. Williams: I must know in what way you received it. The insolvent said he got it from the present Duke by telling him he wanted the money. He had no doubt if reduced to great extremity he should have the same donation again. He had not received it at stated periods, nor had it, as he had said before, any reference to libel. A person of the name of Partridge, who was examined in court, in reference to other matters of the case, said he had received checks for Hague both from the late and the present Duke. The sum paid was £100 per annum. After some further examination as to the practice of the insolvent as an attorney, the Court ordered an adjournment to the 3rd of February, not being satisfied with the account he had given of the state of his affairs.

IMPORTATION OF FOREIGN CATTLE.—At the court of Requests a Smithfield drover, well known as Leary Jemmy, was summoned for 18s., damage inflicted on Mr James Hopkins, of Whitecross street, dealer in Staffordshire ware. Commissioner: How was the damage inflicted? Defendant: Ar, sir, that's it.—Sir R. Peel little knows what he's bin a doin on, wot with the new tariff and the hincome tax, may I be blessed if there is sich a thing as gettin o' nothink now. (Laughter.) Commissioner: Why, man, what has Sir Robert Peel to do with your cattle driving?—Defendant: That's jest it, and I puts it to your feelings as a man, aint he let in a lot of furrin (foreign) cattle? Commissioner: Well, sir, and what then? "Vy, everything," replied the defendant, evidently pitying the apparent ignorance of the learned commissioner. "S'pose you ad to drive a score or two of furrin cattle. You may laugh (continued the defendant), but I can tell you you'd find out as how they knows nothin about our drivin o' 'em, and this year bull in particular was more stupider than any furrin animal as ever got over here." Commissioner: Do you mean to say it is more difficult to drive imported cattle than native? Defendant:—Oney you try it. Vy, how can it be expected they knows what we seys to 'em? (Laughter.) Then, agin, how shed they know anythink about Smiffel (Smithfield) and our ways of drivin? Depend upon it, sir, these year furrin cattle aint no manner of use except to try a new stick on—and it's my opinion. Commissioner: It appears that you were driving the animal, and you must pay the damage. "Not a bit on it. S'pose now the Duke of Cumberland was to send some of his"—Commissioner (hastily): Sir, the damage has been sworn to, and you must pay. "Werry well," replied the rough-hewn defendant, "and the next furriner as I has to drive, may be I don't give it him, that's all. I only wish Sir Robert Peel had the drivin o' 'em." (Laughter.)

RAPHAEL THE ASTROLOGER.—On Friday last, at Worship street Police court, John Palmer, alias Raphael, an accomplished charlatan, *soi-disant* chemist and astrologer, who had been several times examined before Mr Broughton, the magistrate, upon a charge of fraudulently obtaining money from James Farmer, a chairmaker, was again brought up. Mr Cross, a barrister, was engaged for the defence. The complainant, a simple-looking person, about twenty-three years of age, who was accompanied by his mother, detailed very minutely, and amidst frequent bursts of laughter, all that had passed between him and the astrologer, to the following effect:—About eighteen months ago, he said he purchased *Raphael's Prophetic Almanac*, now produced, which, at the conclusion of a long article upon astrology, gave the address of "Mr Raphael," who undertook to cast nativities, or to calculate the events of a whole life, and to answer any question proposed to him, according to the remuneration he received—his charges being from 2 guineas to £25. Complainant wrote to know the cost of casting his sister's nativity, and received an answer from John Palmer, the defendant, in accordance with whose directions he enclosed a fee of one guinea, and the exact time and other particulars of his sister's birth. Six months elapsed, during which complainant had frequent interviews with the defendant, without receiving the desired intelligence from the stars; but he was then induced to pay another guinea to have his own nativity cast, the defendant assuring him that both his horoscope and his sister's should be ready in a week. At

length, the astrologer presented him with his horoscope, telling him that he was a fortunate man, born to become rich; and that, through the year 1842 he would be particularly prosperous in business. His sister's horoscope was soon afterwards produced by the defendant, who obtained money from him at different interviews to the amount altogether of £5. In the course of their conversation the defendant questioned him particularly as to every member of his family, and any property there had ever been in the family, for he said he had found by his calculations that there should be much wealth both from father and mother. Complainant had some vague notion that there ought to be an estate in right of his mother's great-grandfather, and defendant desired to have the exact date of that very old gentleman's birth, in order that he might set to work to find out the estate, and get possession. He wished to have half for himself, but that was objected to, and it was agreed that he should receive so much per cent. of all the recovered property. Upon pretence that it was necessary to consult Doctors' commons as well as the heavenly bodies, he obtained a further supply of cash, to search for the great-grandfather's will, and to take other steps of a legal nature. He also proposed that complainant should marry into his family, that they might all live together and practise astrology together. There was a nice widow, he said, his housekeeper, and complainant might marry her. The trickery continued till nearly the close of 1842, and complainant found, that instead of the prosperity which the astrologer and his horoscope had promised, he had had nothing but ill fortune throughout the year. He remonstrated, but the defendant then loaded him with abuse, and told him, that if he dared to come forward against him he should have nothing but ill luck in this world, and be miserable in the next; threatening also to charge complainant with attempting to violate his daughter, a little girl six years of age. The two horoscopes were produced to the magistrate, who found them to be exceedingly well written, and professing to disclose through each succeeding year the fortunes of the "natives," as the dupes were aptly termed. The defendant's housekeeper, a rather genteel-looking person, was present with him at the last examination, and in answer to some remarks upon the defendant's proposal to the complainant to marry her, she laughed and said, "Indeed it was not likely she should marry such a person." The defendant denied much of the matter stated against him, particularly as to his having stated himself to be a lawyer as well as astrologer, and said that the money he had received from the complainant he had worked for in casting the nativities and making out the produced horoscopes. His counsel assured the magistrates that he as well as his client was a believer in astrology, and having cited various passages of history, both ancient and modern, to show that it had been practised in all ages, he contended that his client had committed no offence. Mr Broughton spoke strongly in condemnation of the whole as an arrant imposture, a delusion contrary alike to reason and religion, and practised in this instance for the purpose of fleecing of their money such simpletons as the one who then appeared before him as complainant. He could make no distinction between this well-dressed defendant, who pretended to tell fortunes by the stars, and any poor gipsy who might be brought before him for pretending to do the same by palmistry, or the cards, or any other device. The defendant was held to bail for his re-appearance for the completion of the depositions for his committal to the sessions for trial.

PARLIAMENTARY TACTICS.—The day on which the session begins (Thursday, the 2nd of February) is now close at hand. It is understood that questions of importance affecting the state of the country will be brought forward at the commencement. We have little doubt that an amendment to the address will be moved; and we need hardly observe to liberal members, that absentees on such an occasion will be called to a severe account by their constituents.—*Morning Chronicle*.

There is no new moon in the month of February, 1843, but there are two new moons in the month of March following. It is a new moon on the 30th of January; again on the 1st of March; and also on the 30th of March.

Postscript.

Wednesday, January 18th, 1843.

NORTH SHROPSHIRE ELECTION.—Lord Clive was on Monday unanimously elected M.P. for this division of Shropshire, in the room of the present Lord Hill, elevated to the peerage by the death of the late Commander-in-chief.

The *Dublin Evening Mail* of Monday contains a few particulars of a most awful snow storm at Dundane, by which nearly 80 persons found a watery grave. Their correspondent says—"Friday morning was so very fine that almost all the boats from Newcastle to Analong went out to their fishing in the bay, where they had quite an uncommon take of fish. About noon it came on to blow with snow. Up to this hour there are, I believe, seven boats from Newcastle, and four from Analong, missing. They were skiffs, manned with about six hands each. Some of them were seen to go down by the crews of the boats which got in. One boat drifted in with two dead men in it. I think they reckon on a loss of 48 souls at Newcastle, and about 30 at Analong, or 80 altogether; but I do not pretend to give you an official or authentic account of the numbers, only what appears to be the best and least exaggerated."

The committee on the address in reply to the speech from the King of the French, appointed by the Chamber of Deputies, have unanimously agreed to introduce an amendment relative to the right of search. The approaching discussion of the address is looked for with much anxiety. Little doubt is entertained that that document will contain a paragraph recommending or calling for a modification of the treaties of 1831 and of 1833.

The *Suabian Mercury* of the 13th inst. states, that the Emperor of Russia had addressed a note to the other great powers, in which he formally declared himself ready to act in concert with them in arranging the affairs of Servia.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE.

DERBY.—At a special general meeting of the members of the Complete Suffrage association held yesterday evening, it was

"Resolved—That although the great mass of the superficial politicians of the day (and especially those with whom 'the wish was father to the thought'), have trumpeted forth their conviction that 'complete suffrage is complete failure'; we, the members of this association, see abundant reason for coming to a far different conclusion.

"We conceive that our principles are as sound and as essentially just and equitable as they ever were—that their truth is totally independent of the petty transactions of men—that they would not lose one iota of their intrinsic worth, whatever might be the result of the deliberation of any conference or assembly whatever; and that although those who build their political hopes upon the treacherous foundation of expediency, might have their fabric endangered by every trifling reverse, they have yet to learn that men who have taken the deep and solid rock of principle for their basis, can bear unscathed the storms which would have laid in ruins the unstable projects of their compeers.

"We think that the so-called 'split' between the two bodies forming the conference is an obvious misnomer, seeing that a split pre-supposes a union, which union never existed. The members of the Complete Suffrage association, so far as good feeling and unanimity are concerned, are exactly in the same position as they were before—there has been no division among them, and it would, indeed, be difficult to show how the unreasonable opposition of another party could in any way prove the unsoundness of the complete suffrage cause. Our delegates, and those of a like character from other places, went to the conference for a specific purpose—to decide upon the necessary details of an act of parliament embodying their principles, the draft of which they understood would be laid before them by the council. Another body of men, many of whom went predetermined not to let this bill be considered, endeavoured to prevent them effecting such purpose. The minority, finding this to be the case, and being resolved to do what they came for, seceded, entered into an examination of the bill, made sundry amendments, finally passed it without a single dissentient, and returned to their homes, having done that which they went to do. Where, then, is the failure?

"We therefore believe that our cause is as sound and as healthy as ever, despite the specious appearances to the contrary; and in proof that we mean what we say we now pledge ourselves to proceed with the agitation more zealously and vigorously than we have hitherto done.

"Resolved—That this meeting expresses its entire approbation of the line of conduct pursued by the council of the Union and the complete suffrage portion of the conference; and that it does so for the following reasons:—

"1. That the conference having been convened expressly to consult upon a bill, the draft of which all parties understood would be presented by the council, could not, without deliberately stultifying itself, have entertained any other business until that was disposed of. That all who went with the honest intention of doing that for which the convention was assembled were constrained, both by the rules of order and by a proper regard for their own dignity, to oppose the introduction of any other business; and that when the point was carried against them they had no alternative but to retire.

"2. That had they given up their position, and identified themselves with a party, some of whose leaders have, by their unprincipled conduct, sullied the brightness of the truths they enunciate, they would have taken upon their own shoulders all the odium attaching to such characters, and would inevitably have roused into array against themselves and their principles, the prejudices of the public, to the serious injury of the great cause of popular liberty.

"3. That by adopting the firm, straightforward, and uncompromising course which they pursued, they gave to the working classes a clear practical evidence of the sincerity of their intention, seeing that if they had had any sinister or underhanded designs, their obvious policy would have been to court the favour of the opposite party, by conceding all that was asked."

BANBURY.—On Monday evening, a meeting attended by some influential reformers of this place, was held at the Temperance hotel. Mr Bigg was voted to the chair; and stated the meeting to be for the purpose of considering the propriety of aiding the Complete Suffrage Union, by spreading a knowledge of its principles. Messrs Payne, Fisher, French, Baxter, Stevens, and others, approved the object of the meeting. Mr R. K. Philp recommended the formation of a Banbury complete suffrage union, and also the extension and support of the National Union. Mr Studdert proposed, and Mr Stevens seconded, "That this meeting do now proceed to form an association, to be called the Banbury complete suffrage union." Carried unanimously. The statement of objects was then agreed to; and the meeting adjourned until Monday next, to make further arrangements. An excellent feeling towards the cause of complete suffrage prevails with the electors and non-electors of this town.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat is 2630 quarters. There is no foreign in the market. But little business is doing, and lower prices must be taken to make sales.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Chartist" under consideration.

"A Bunch of Cosmopolites," of which we wish there were many, have sent us a gratifying letter, of which the following is an extract:—

"SIR—Encouraged by your manly appeals to reason, and your bold advocacy of righteous principles, a few friends determined on making a canvass for subscribers for the *Nonconformist*, and the enclosed cheque, with the list of twelve, has been the result of about two hours' exertion." It is subsequently added, "It may not be amiss to inform you that a society is in formation for the purpose of disseminating the *Nonconformist* and its avowed principles. It is arranged that the papers, when read, shall be placed at the disposal of the society, who intend to distribute them gratuitously among the middle class, with the exception of one number, which they reserve for reference."

Many thanks to our friends. They have in them the true Welsh blood. They will be happy to hear that they stand not alone in their zeal, and we, on our parts, anticipate with some confidence that the example will be extensively copied.

"G. P." We respectfully decline the insertion of his letter, which will be returned to him with an accompanying note.

"A. Z." The essay he has sent us may be more usefully circulated, we think, by private hand, than published at the present moment in this journal.

"Query." In our judgment, paupers have no right to the franchise, and their admission or exclusion from it is purely a question of expediency.

"Investigator," "Cipher," and "One of the Middle Class," declined.

We greatly regret that the paragraph respecting a complete suffrage meeting at Preston, by some means or other got mislaid, and the local paper which contained a report of it never reached us.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18, 1843.

SUMMARY.

"It is an ill wind which blows nobody any good;" and we suppose that the late tempest, almost unprecedented in severity, may have spread its spoils at the feet of here and there a child of fortune. In general it has proved a most distressing visitation. It constitutes the memorable event of the week. It seemed, as it swept over the land, as if it would bear along upon its wings all things animate and inanimate, moving and fixed. At sea its devastations were terrific. On all our coasts it has left, in the shape of wrecks, melancholy traces of its irresistible might. The phenomenon was preceded by a sudden and unparalleled depression of the mercury in the barometer, and some men, recollecting that the great earthquake at Lisbon followed a similar indication, prepared themselves for a like catastrophe. Happily their fears were blown away by the gale, and the convulsion of elements, fearful as it was, fell far short of their gloomy prognostications. Whether the sudden and unexpected sinking of the political barometer points to a similar agitation, we shall not take upon us to predict; but should it unhappily be the case, we trust it will pass off in a gale of wind, the effects of which may be soon repaired, and not take the shape of a breaking up of the social system, which will overwhelm all classes in the same misery and ruin.

The next notable feature of the week's news is the letter of Sir James Graham to the Moderator of the General Assembly of the church of Scotland. Cool, clear, argumentative, and in our judgment, perfectly triumphant, it places the parties who are seeking to retain state endowments, without submitting themselves to state control, in the most awkward possible dilemma. They have made a rush at government, and government remains, not only without breach, but unshaken. In clear consistency they ought now to recoil into the arms of the voluntary principle. This they threatened as the result of failure—they threatened, but we doubt whether they have deliberately counted the costs. At present they are not staggering in the direction of voluntarism at all, but to save them from falling are clutching at the vain hope of moving the legislature to open the door which the cabinet has fast locked. We suspect that two or three years will be spent in this fruitless attempt, by which time their menaces will have been forgotten by themselves, if not by others. We may take occasion next week to comment upon this remarkable passage of ecclesiastical history. Meanwhile, we subjoin the following passage from the *Aberdeen Banner*, as serving to illustrate the state of feeling among the non-intrusionists:—

"We are not taken unawares. We are quite prepared. It remains for the next General Assembly to propose a dissolution of the connexion between church and state. If a majority vote for this, then, by right of the church's authority, the whole church of Scotland ceases to be an establishment, and its twelve hundred ministers, moderators and all, are for the time being disestablished, and deprived of their endowments. One part of them may, of course, sue for a re-establishment. This the state may be willing to grant; but we, along with the voluntaries, will do our utmost to prevent it. And if a re-establishment take place, we will everlastingly struggle to undo it. But if, on the other hand, a majority of the next Assembly do not vote for the dissolution of the connexion between church and state, then, of course, the establishment remains unbroken, and there will be no necessity for the moderates to apply for a re-establishment, or for the state to make an offer of it. In that case, the minority, including the four hundred and fifty resolutions, and all who may then adhere to them, will first secede from the establishment, and then (help us God) will attack and demolish it."

The Anti-corn-law banquet at Glasgow and soirées at Edinburgh, come next upon the stage—the former rendered somewhat remarkable by the declaration of Mr Fox Maule of his recent conversion to the principle of total repeal. It has its set-off, however, in the apostacy of Mr Peter Ainsworth, the colleague of Dr Bowring in the representation of Bolton; in a letter of Mr Gladstone, father to the Vice-president of the Board of Trade; and in the return by Sir Robert Peel, after previously announced acceptance, of sundry pieces of cotton velvet curiously figured with stalks and ears of corn, having the word "Free" insidiously lurking beneath them. These little incidents, like flying straws, serve to show the direction of the wind, and indicate that free trade in wheat will not be proposed nor sanctioned by government next session.

With these prospects we rejoice to see the Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union quietly proceeding to work. From the correspondence they have received, it would seem that the friends of this movement are not at all discouraged by the issue of the recent conference. We verily believe that the cause will lose very few individuals whose countenance it cared to retain. Something of the prestige which it formerly enjoyed, it will now of course lack, but what it has lost in this way, it will more than gain by its public secession from all political sectarianism. It is now sound at heart, and free from all possible taint upon its moral character. Mr Sharman Crawford has consented to bring forward in parliament the "People's bill;" and, if the time be wisely selected, opportunity and motive will be afforded for an effective agitation of our borough constituencies. This, we need not say, will render still more requisite systematic organisation and judicious effort; and on this head we commend to the notice of our friends a letter appearing in our columns of this day, under the signature of "A London Complete Suffragist," as well as one from the Rev. W. Leaske to the Council of the National Complete Suffrage Union.

The French Chamber of Deputies has been opened by the King in person with a speech, which, as usual, tells nothing, but leaves much to be surmised. Its tone, in reference to Spain, is considered unsatisfactory and ominous; and so much so, that war between the two countries was regarded as not improbable. We anticipate no such result. The expenditure of France already exceeds its income by no less than 11,000,000*fr.*; and the bluster of French diplomacy, resorted to unsparingly for party purposes, is no true index of French feeling or intention. Ministers have succeeded in placing their own friends upon most of the *bureaux*. M. Guizot has openly avowed his intention of maintaining the treaties of 1831 and 1833, and all present appearances favour the expectation that the present government of France will be able to maintain its position. In Spain, the Cortes have been dissolved, and new elections ordered. This step of Espartero may be looked upon as denoting conscious strength. An appeal to the constituent body, so soon after the suppression of the revolt at Barcelona, is pretty decisive evidence that the Regent has good reason for believing that disaffection to his government is not by any means the national feeling. No other topic of foreign news requires notice here.

THE TOAD'S EYE.

In our advertising columns will be found a series of resolutions passed on Thursday evening last, by the Leicester Complete Suffrage association. The first of these, which asserts the wisdom of that body in standing aloof from the late conference at Birmingham, might at another time, and placed in juxtaposition with less important topics, challenge from us a more than passing observation. Making its appearance, however, when and where it does, we are relieved from the necessity of combating the principle it appears to our minds to involve; and the much more grateful task devolves upon us of assuring the friends of the movement, both at Leicester and elsewhere, that, however they may have disapproved of the policy which convened that assembly, they are not likely to be called upon to deplore the foreseen result. The seeming disaster is proving itself to be a real benefit. The fire which spread such consternation, and which thousands bewailed as an irreparable mischief, has con-

sumed little else than the low and narrow districts of the city in which the plague securely nestled—the courts and alleys which have been swept off will be succeeded by spacious streets—and the wooden hovels which bred nothing but disease, by buildings of solid stone which health may inhabit, and which tyranny may assail in vain.

It will be seen that the Leicester association are proceeding with manly decision of purpose to gird themselves for real work. We expected from them no less. And it will give them as much pleasure to be assured, as it does us to assure them, that in this respect they are far from singular. In every quarter of the kingdom the same cause is working out the same happy effect. It has happened to the complete suffrage movement, like every other great political cause in its earlier days, that in the fresh buoyancy of its youth, and in its eager zeal for the attainment of the object at which it aims, it has a little outrun its wind. They who watched its progress with a jealous and unfriendly eye, ascribed its sudden pause to constitutional weakness. The wish was father of the thought. Scarcely, however, has their shout of derision died away, before they are compelled to mark the prematurity of their own triumph. That which they had confidently anticipated does not follow. The "stalwart chieft" neither sinks to the earth nor turns back his eye. He is but taking breath, and, turning past experience to account, buckling his belt around him somewhat more tightly. It is abundantly evident that he means to move on, more cautiously, perhaps, but not a whit less resolutely than heretofore.

Apart from the advantage which this movement will ere long experience, from having effectually detached itself from a connexion which served only to burden it with a questionable reputation, the seeming reverse it has of late sustained promises to exert upon its own native energies a beneficial influence. Rapidity of progress, pleasant as it is for the time being, is not always, especially at the commencement of a great and important agitation, most desirable. It is apt to bring with it a snare. Effort, under such circumstances, is tempted to waste itself in idle show—to run out in much talking—to ooze forth at every pore in big words. Too much is thought of demonstrations—too little of practical and solid organisation. The few arrangements which exist, are loose—characterised by extension rather than by compactness. In the absence of any apparent cause for fear, attacks upon the well disciplined foe are seldom governed by system—oftener, they are desultory and irregular. Men are apt to fancy themselves strong, and to presume upon what they fancy. An early defeat sets all this to rights. The incessant shouting which, when indulged in, possesses men with a strange hallucination that they are as good as victors, ceases altogether. Action follows silence. Heads are set to work to plan—hands to execute. The holiday review is succeeded by a serious and vigorous campaign. And the consequence is, that there is far less noise, and far greater progress, than before.

Nor is this, by any means, the only or the chief good, which may fairly be expected from the issue of the Birmingham conference. There is another, the value of which will richly compensate the friends of complete suffrage for any immediate disaster. The decision of character which recently braved secession, will, by its own act, create in our ranks a more anxious solicitude about the moral bearing of our agitation. The suffrage is but a means to an end—and they who refused to connect themselves with men who are seeking to arm the people with the suffrage with a view to base, factious, domineering, and essentially class purposes, will not now, we trust, be satisfied with the negative virtue of doing nothing to stimulate popular desire to what is in itself impolitic and unjust. Whilst we aim to put into the hands of our fellow-countrymen their unquestionable rights, recent events may serve to impress upon us more deeply the duty of doing so by means which may instruct them in the proper use of those rights, whenever obtained. By discountenancing on every hand mere tumultuous excitement, by carefully weeding out from the popular mind foolish and extravagant expectations, by making people familiar with the proper sphere of government, by wisely spreading out in their view those evils of class legislation for the sake of the abolition of which complete suffrage is to be mainly sought after, by exalting, on all fitting occasions, morals above politics, and paying homage to character in preference to station, or even talent—we may lead the unenfranchised, unconsciously, through that healthy political training which, whilst it aids the progress of the democratic principle, will at the same time prepare society to avail themselves of its power for good as soon as it shall become fairly embodied in our constitution. It ought never to be lost sight of, that the franchise is, in the political, what personal liberty is in the social world—a right which none can equitably withhold; but also an instrument which may be turned to mischievous as well as useful account. We have no hesitation in asserting that the first uses to which complete suffrage will be applied will depend very materially upon the character of the agitation employed to win it—and should the

late affair at Birmingham, as we doubt not it will, awaken among the friends of the movement a livelier, and yet more watchful, solicitude to keep its character free from blemish, and to render it, what it may really become, an efficient means of political instruction and discipline, it will yet be looked back upon with unmingled satisfaction and thankfulness as the happiest event which could have occurred.

We are free, moreover, to confess that a reverse, such as that which lately overtook the cause, will not be without its beneficial tendency to render its more ardent advocates somewhat more patient and tolerant of honest differences of opinion. Without relaxing in the smallest degree the firmness of their resolves, or clouding the clearness of their vision, it may yet do something to persuade them to a cultivation of forbearance, and set them upon wearing down prejudices rather than tearing them up by the roots. An uninterrupted career of prosperity is not unlikely to result in a tone of opinionativeness, and an uncharitableness of temper. One is apt to get uppish when every thing runs smoothly, and to be influenced by a latent feeling, not the less powerful because unobserved, that the minds which do not bow to arguments which have proved so convincing, and concur in policy so extensively triumphant, *must* be held in check by motives which will not bear the light. There is nothing like a defeat for softening the heart, and unsealing the springs of feeling which vanity had locked up.

In these several ways the advocates (and we count ourselves of the number) of complete suffrage principles may improve a temporary loss of reputation and power—and thus, out of the ashes of disaster, may arise the phoenix of success. They who honestly pursue right principles need never give up the pursuit in despair. Where they fail they may learn something valuable. In politics, as in every walk of life, events will happen which teach wisdom by the rod of discipline—events which no man would run in search of, but which, when they cross his path, may be made tributary to the most valuable purposes—events

“Which, like the plants that throw
Their fragrance from the wounded part,
Breathe sweetness out of woe.”

It is ours to turn them to legitimate uses. The Leicester association is doing this. Others, animated by the same spirit, are taking the same course. All, we trust, without exception, will imitate the good example, and verify the maxim of our dramatic bard—

“Sweet are the uses of adversity,
Which, like the toad, ugly and venomous,
Wears yet a precious jewel in its head.”

THE NEWSPAPER PRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN.

THE *Times* of Saturday last contains an article, the design of which is to vindicate the newspaper press of this country from an imputation thrown out against it by a writer in the last number of the *Edinburgh Review*. The charge of the reviewer is thus pithily expressed:—“We cannot but regard the condition of our daily press as a morning and evening witness against the moral character of the people.” The *Times*, as might have been expected, repels the charge with indignation, and concludes by passing upon itself the following eulogium:—

“For ourselves we may look back upon the past with just pride. The influence of this journal has been at the disposal of no minister, and no faction. Independent of all parties, we have never refused our support to any which seemed anxious to forward the true interests of the country. Happy to have aided the conservative cause when it required our aid, we have never abandoned those principles which we hold distinct from the majority of the conservative body. We have had one object constantly in view—the true happiness and glory of England; and our reward has been the confidence and support which the people of England have never withheld from us.”

Never, perhaps, could passage have been penned so completely and so triumphantly to establish the charge of the reviewer. That the public in this land can permit the utterance by the *Times* of a boast like this, constitutes, in our judgment, one of the most melancholy proofs of the essential immorality of the age. A journal thrice-dyed in apostasy—having notoriously, and without the smallest interval for deliberation, abandoned every principle which it had advocated for years—truthful in no one thing but a regard to its own sordid interests—to-day affirming this, to-morrow asserting its opposite, and the next day swearing with hardened effrontery that it has never varied from itself—practising without scruple the meanest, paltriest, most disgusting tricks of partisan warfare, with a view to blind the eyes of its readers—venal, at its own price of course, beyond all other organs of opinion—served mainly, up to this very hour, by apostates—adjudged by the common sense and common honesty of a majority of its own readers to be in talent pre-eminent, in character worthless, the very type of clever wickedness and of varnished political villany—a journal like this, hoary in sin, and surrounded by associations which will never allow the public to forget its infamy, could never have ventured to put forth a claim

to sincerity, independence, and patriotism, much less to direct, with “just pride,” attention to the past, had not the laxity of public morals been such as to prompt despair in respect to the future destinies of the country. When these things can be tolerated, the evidence is too plain, that rottenness is at the core of British society. We would not value at a high rate the chastity of that company which listens with listless indifference to frequent commendations of her immaculate virtue, pronounced by the lips of one notoriously abandoned to vice. The public which can patronise a detected hypocrite, can neither greatly respect itself nor virtue.

In moral characteristics, however, the *Times* is far from standing alone. In this respect, the newspaper press of this country, too generally resembles it. True, we have but little of the gross personal slander which, beyond the Atlantic, is said to be dealt out wholesale, to minister gratification to depraved appetites. But have we not something worse—infinately more pernicious? Let any one observe to what ultimate principles of morality, social or political, the current of newspaper literature is slowly but surely drifting the public mind. Does he find it borne onward in the direction of reverence to God, or respect for man? Giving himself up to the exclusive study of these ephemeral productions, will he be taught to value truth for its own sake, and as containing within itself its own reward? Why, all the noblest attributes of man, and all the highest sanctions of religion, are, in this field, used simply as instruments to work out the basest purposes of faction; and the whole object of the press would seem to be, to harness mind and morals to the car of mere party politics. It aims with a terrible deliberateness and constancy to debauch the heart of society, and to compass, by the use of any means, fair or foul, an illicit connexion between that heart and some chosen section of the political world. It will stoop to any misrepresentation, and dress itself up in any hypocritical pretence—will fawn, and flatter, and lie, to any extent the occasion may require. There are no principles too sacred upon which for it to trample—no guise too heavenly for it to wear—in the pursuit of objects as sordidly vile as men can propose to themselves. And thus, all that we most value—intellect, mental cultivation, moral truth, Christian loveliness—all is made to revolve about some underhand, and, may be, disgraceful design of faction—all are hired and employed to fulfil the selfish behests of those who are behind the scenes; and to this end, are made to strut upon the stage and amuse an audience with a pleasing illusion.

To Englishmen intelligent enough to discern, and sufficiently patriotic to desire, the real welfare of their country, we know not a more melancholy, a more spirit-breaking sight than the newspaper press. What a noble instrument is it; and, for the most part, how polished, how bright, how keen! One sees, gleaming from every part of its surface, as it is waived to and fro, the light of intellect, and feels, that upon whomsoever it shall descend, it will descend with a weight which nothing but mind can possess! What a weapon, were it but wielded on behalf of truth and happiness! But the wealth of an aristocracy has purchased it, and virtually it is in their hands, to be wielded for their selfish purposes. Emphatically is this true of the daily press. The child of free principles, it turns against its own parent a parricidal hand; and with a forced laugh, a mingled gaiety and ferocity, such as was exemplified oftentimes during the first French revolution, it may be observed, with a sneering malignity which conscious apostasy from a high calling can alone exhibit, to treat with insult, and pluck by the beard, every generous and holy sentiment out of which its own existence sprang. Or, to change the figure (for the sad reality suggests many mournful images), our daily press, like a decoy elephant, its stupendous powers presided over, guided, and governed, by a small and intrinsically weak and insignificant body, submits to be used for the purpose of alluring into servitude those whose irresistible might none could make open war upon without meeting certain and instant destruction. The elements of a people's strength are thus converted into the chains of a people's slavery. The Philistine lords discovered too successfully the secret of a nation's freedom, and there wanted not many a Dalilah to shave off the rich and clustering locks of the Sampson whom they both feared and hated. They have put out his eyes, and sent him to grind at the common mill. No wonder they are able to compass all their sinister designs. “But yet the pity of it, Iago! Oh, Iago, the pity of it, Iago!”

THE RETURNED PRESENT.

A MR WILLIAM BARLOW, of Ancoates Vale works, Manchester, recently presented to Sir Robert Peel a beautiful specimen of printed velveteen. The cloth was of cotton fabric, but so skilfully dressed, as to present the appearance of silk. The design figured upon it was a stalk and ear of wheat tastefully thrown together, from beneath which peeped a small scroll bearing the word “Free.”

The present was courteously accepted by the Premier, who, in his note of acknowledgment, thus compliments the manufacture—“Lady Peel admires it so much, that she will convert one of the pieces into a cloak for her own wearing; the other I will apply to my own use.” The thing got wind in the newspapers, and speculation was of course rife upon a true interpretation of the prognostic. Whilst the advocates of free trade, however, were rejoicing in so favourable an omen, Sir Robert suddenly dashes all their hopes aside, by the following note to his obliging correspondent:—

“Drayton Manor, Jan. 7, 1843.

“SIR—I was not aware until to-day that the specimen of manufacture, which you requested me to accept, bore any allusion to matters that are the subject of public controversy.

“No mention whatever was made of this in the letter you addressed to me; and I thought it would be ungracious to reject what appeared to be a pure act of civility on your part.

“I must beg leave to return to you that which I accepted under an erroneous impression.

“I am, sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT PEELE.”

The subject opens up some curious questions. Why should Sir Robert, whose commercial principles himself has avowed in parliament, display so marked an antipathy to the almost concealed motto “Free,” printed in close proximity to stalks and ears of wheat? Whose criticisms can he fear, that he must deprive his lady of a cloak already, in imagination, cut out and made up, and himself of a garment to be hereafter fitted to his person by the hand of the tailor—both, probably, destined to be appropriately displayed at the next drawing-room held by her Majesty? The return of an already accepted gift is extremely ungracious, and the return of a gift to be converted to such uses must have been marked by a reluctance proportionate to the pleasure which its first appearance had excited. We suspect that Sir Robert's conduct in this instance betokens Sir Robert's present position and future policy. The velveteens, like the commercial principles he avowed last session—the one so beautiful, the other so statesmanlike and fair—are his own only so long and so far as his masters will permit. Both must be yielded up at their dictation. They who calculate upon the Premier's future course in reference to the repeal of the corn laws, from maxims uttered with such seeming candour in the house of Commons, will be destined, ere long, we suspect, like Mr Barlow, to receive a note of discouragement, and to find that the “free” velveteen which they believed Sir Robert to have accepted, will be returned to them with an ungracious assurance that it was originally accepted “under an erroneous impression.” The good man is in the power of others. The parliament over which he nominally presides virtually presides over him. His tail is lengthy, but then it is unmanageable. He cannot always wag it as he would, and he is not a man to bear curtailment. We see, therefore, no hopes for free trade at present. It will fare the lot of the printed velveteens. Sir Robert will return it to its owner upon having discovered that he cannot, without damage to himself, convert it into a cloak for the party to which he is wedded, nor apply it to his own use.

THE STRIKE.

ITS HISTORY, CAUSES, AND CONSEQUENCES.

(From a Manchester Correspondent.)

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions contained in these papers.]

XI.

Meeting of Magistrates and Employers at the Town hall, Manchester—Dispersion of the Meeting in Granby Row fields—Thursday morning—Important Meeting of the Five Trades: their Resolutions—United Labour—Charter proposed—General Delegate Meeting.

A MEETING of merchants and manufacturers, at which the mayor and magistrates were present, was held at the Town hall, Manchester, late on Wednesday evening. This meeting should be glanced at, because in what took place at it may be seen the opinions of the middle classes, so far, at least, as the meeting was a fair representation of them.

The mayor was in the chair. The largest spinner in the town was present. The most considerable manufacturer was there. Men employing from 1000 to 2000 hands, in all branches of manufacture, including the mechanic trades, were there in abundance. The subject under consideration was “what to do, as employers, at the present juncture.” Mr —, the great spinner, said, “He did not think that the hands wished to turn out. Many of his own workmen had expressed their regret to his manager, at being obliged to quit their work. He had no doubt there was much disaffection—but he did not believe it went so far as to induce those in work to desire to join in a general turn-out. He thought that all the masters should resume work on Friday morning—resume simultaneously; and take care to have a due protection of the police and military, as well as a good portion of the best disposed of their workmen sworn in as special constables for the protection of the property of their masters. In spite of all that had been said about the exasperation of the working classes, he thought this was the exception, not the rule. Above all, he did not think that the feeling against the government, which some gentlemen talked so much about, on account of its not doing what some of the people wanted, existed to any considerable extent. He believed that those who had work were satisfied and content with their condition, as a class. And he was sure that firmness and

courage on the part of the masters—with the due aid of the authorities, were quite sufficient to put an immediate stop to these outrages." Mr —, a very extensive manufacturer, who had resisted all attempts to stop his mill, and whose place was guarded by police and soldiers during the day time, said, "If all the masters had resisted the attempts of the mob as his people had done, the progress of the turn-out would have been a dead letter. His hands were contented. They did not want to go out—and did not entertain those feelings and opinions which gentlemen in other places had attributed to the working classes. He believed these classes were perfectly well disposed. Let the masters follow the plan of Mr —, and all go to work at once, with due protection, and these disgraceful proceedings would be at an end. The time for that which was improperly called conciliation, was gone by—the outrages must be put down with a strong hand at once." Mr —, a considerable employer, and a man whose name is well known in the county, said, "He, for one, would never put out of sight the fact that the working men had been, and were, suffering greatly. Those out of work were literally starving, and those in work were insufficiently paid. He knew that the men felt this, and that a great mass attributed this to mis-government. He feared that the great mass of the people inside the mills were as anxious to cease working, until they could get better wages, as those outside; and that, until there was something done—or until some hope appeared, there would be no peace. He thought that while everything was done to protect property, and preserve the peace, the masters should fairly look into the popular complaints, and try to procure an alteration of anything that was really a grievance. He would do all he could to aid in keeping the peace, and to show the turn-outs that they would gain little by their present course—but he would still continue to denounce what he conscientiously believed to be the cause of the decay of trade, and of the distress of the operatives." These sentiments were not liked by many of those who had faith in the "perfect contentment" of the people. The tory manufacturers would hear of nothing but "putting the thing down" at any cost. No conciliation—no "tampering"—no overtures from the masters to the turn-outs—but, "Put it down at once." It was quite clear that very many of the masters relied upon the statements of their managers, and that the latter knew very little of the real condition, wants, or opinions, of the men under their care. (To prove this, it is merely necessary to state that the gentleman who had "defended his mill," and who, on this occasion, expressed a belief "that his men wished to continue at their work," was compelled, two or three days later, to issue a notice, stating, "that although he wished to keep his machinery going and his men employed, he should close his mill until a sufficient number of hands applied to be admitted again to work—because the number of persons coming to work was reduced to so very small a number, that the mill could no longer be worked.") Fiery councils seemed to put down the expression of more reasonable ones; the gentleman, whose very excellent remarks are given above, was the only master present who had courage to avow his real sentiments, or to say a word in favour of the poor suffering operatives; who, goaded almost to madness, were now endeavouring—though uselessly—to bring their sufferings to an end. There were plenty of "liberals" present—but they made no sign.* When the meeting was over, the magistrates held a private consultation; and, as the great public meeting of the following morning was put a stop to, no doubt resolved to stop all out-door gatherings while the disturbances continued.

The police of Manchester, completely worn out with fatigue, were all off duty during Wednesday night. This fact was pretty generally known, but the town was quiet through the whole of the night.

Early on Thursday morning, large crowds proceeded to Granby row fields from all parts of Manchester and Salford; and smaller bodies of men marched into the town from different villages in the neighbourhood. At half-past six o'clock, the number of persons present was immense. The chair was taken by Donovan, the power-loom weaver; Macartney, from Liverpool, and Dixon, addressed the meeting; they denounced the masters, and declared the charter "to contain the only hopes of the people." Christopher Doyle spoke next. He had not proceeded far, however, when his address, and the meeting also, were put an end to in a manner little expected by the peaceable and quiet thousands congregated together to ask one another what to do! The mayor, with Sir Charles Shaw, the chief of police, and two or three magistrates, rode up to the hustings, attended by a small escort. At the same moment were seen—two pieces of cannon approaching by one of the avenues leading to the place of meeting—a formidable array of heavy dragoons trotting up by another—a company of riflemen marching to the field by a third approach, and large bodies of police and special constables coming to the ground from other quarters. The meeting was surrounded in a moment. The mayor informed the chairman that the assemblage was illegal, and would be dispersed. Doyle remonstrated in vain, and then advised the people to disperse, before the reading of the Riot act, because "he knew the authorities of Manchester so well, that he was sure they would like nothing better than such an outrage as would give them an excuse for apprehending him and such as he was." The Riot act was read. Whispers, murmurs, and at length yells and groans, broke from the living mass which saw

itself suddenly environed with a hostile array. The great mass came together with no bad intention, and it was thought hard to be thus prevented from discussing, or even stating, their grievances: hence the murmurs. The people stood; some cried "Stand, stand," as the dragoons, with drawn swords, advanced. The loose masses on the outskirts of the meeting fled as the soldiers neared them. The firm body, which more properly constituted the meeting, remained firm, for a moment, in spite of a threat from one of the military commanders; and when the prancing chargers, and the gleaming sabres of their riders, came close upon them, they retired sullenly before the irresistible force, with the air of men who believed themselves, not in the wrong, but wronged. The field was soon as tenantless as before it had been teeming with living and excited beings. The soldiers and police for some time guarded all the approaches to the place of meeting. Meanwhile a meeting of a somewhat different character was being held in the Carpenters' hall—a building which abuts upon the scene of the dispersed meeting. It was a deliberative assembling of the "five mechanic trades"—viz. smiths, mechanics, moulders, millwrights, and engineers. It was called by placards issued the previous evening. There are in this union about 3700 persons. They constitute the best paid, best educated, and most influential portion of the working classes. They seldom take a very active part in politics: and, from a kind of semi-aristocratic feeling, seldom mingle heartily in movements originated by other sections of the working men. They were now "out;" and, therefore met "to deliberate upon the steps to be taken at the present alarming crisis." Upwards of 2300 persons were present at a few minutes past 6, when the meeting commenced. John Middleton was called to the chair. Many clever and temperate speeches were delivered. Compulsory turn-outs were denounced. All violence was denounced. At the same time it was declared that neither the distress that existed, nor the violence that had taken place, would have happened but for class legislation. The mover of one of the resolutions said "it was the first duty of every government, which was, or which was supposed to be, the general and ruling will, to provide for the physical necessities of the people; and their second was to afford to all the means of a sound and thorough education. Did the legislature of the country do this, there would be no fear of popular disturbances." The following are the resolutions passed:—

"A public meeting of the mechanics, engineers, millwrights, moulders, and smiths was held this morning at six o'clock, pursuant to advertisement, in the Carpenters' hall, to take into consideration the present alarming crisis. The authorities of the town attended, and signified that such meeting was perfectly legal, and approved of the orderly manner in which it was conducted. The following were the resolutions agreed to:—

"Resolved.—1. That this meeting pledges itself not to sanction any illegal or immoral proceedings.

"2. That this meeting deprecates the late and present conduct of those employers who have been reducing wages; thereby depriving the labourer of the means of subsistence, and also destroying the home trade; but at the same time, we cannot, nor do we, sanction the conduct of those individuals who have been going about destroying property, and offering violence to the people.

"3. That it is the opinion of this meeting, that until class legislation is entirely destroyed, and the principle of united labour is established, the labourer will not be in a position to enjoy the fruits of his own industry.

"4. That it is the opinion of this meeting the people's charter ought to become the law of the land, as it contains the elements of justice and prosperity; and we pledge ourselves never to relinquish our demands until that document becomes a legislative enactment.

"5. That a committee be appointed by this meeting to wait upon the other trades, to endeavour, if possible, to secure a more general union, before entering into any practical measures for redressing any grievances.

"6. That a committee be appointed to draw up an address to employers in general, showing them the evil results of reducing wages.

"7. That the trades now assembled do pledge themselves not to commence work until they have had an interview with deputations from other trades.

"8. That the foregoing resolutions be printed, and posted in different parts of the town and neighbourhood.

"9. That this meeting do adjourn until to-morrow afternoon, the 12th instant, at two o'clock, to be held at the Carpenters' hall, where men of the aforementioned trades, and deputations from all other trades and professions, are particularly requested to attend.

"By order of the meeting,

"J. MIDDLETON, Chairman."

In explanation of the clause which speaks of "the principle of united labour," it should be stated that a good many of the leading spirits amongst the five trades are advocates for a partial adoption of "co-operation," as expounded in Owen's works upon society; and many of the best informed of the working classes generally, while disagreeing in religious views with the socialists, approve of that very old and often-attempted mode of arranging the production and distribution of wealth, which the socialists have so artfully interwoven with their non-responsibility, non-marriage, and non-religion crotchets. Men thus favourable to a great social change, could not be expected to place entire faith in a political renovation. During the whole struggle, in all the discussions, both public and private, of the mechanic trades, it was evident that "united labour" and "the charter," as means of improving the condition of the people, kept coming into collision. The chartists were the most numerous—the co-operatists the most intelligent.

The leaders of the dispersed meeting, with the representatives of several trades, and men from other localities, adjourned from Granby Row fields to a room in Tib street. After a long discussion, the following resolution was passed; and appeared, in the course of the afternoon, on the walls as here copied:—

"PEACE, LAW, AND ORDER.

"To the Trades and Mill Hands of Manchester and its Vicinity.

"At a preliminary meeting of the members of various trades, and mill hands, held in the Fustian Cutter's room, Tib street, it

was unanimously resolved—"That this meeting recommend to the operatives of Manchester and its vicinity, the propriety of assembling in their respective localities, at seven o'clock in the morning (Friday), to consider the best means of advancing the interests of the people at the present alarming crisis; and that those various bodies elect persons to represent their views at the conference of delegates, to be held at Tib street, at ten o'clock in the morning. WILLIAM BOYD, Chairman.

"N.B. Let all meetings be public, and held within doors."

The routed meeting scattered itself over the town. Parties of the most hungry, or of habitual beggars, and some thieves, the former the most numerous, roamed about the town and its suburbs, and where no police were in sight, laid the shopkeepers and housekeepers under severe contributions of food or money. The starving were civil but urgent; the idle and vicious were importunate, and sometimes violent.

During the day an alarm was given that the Oldham colliers were marching *en masse* into Manchester. Accordingly a cannon was planted at the *embouchure* of the Oldham road, and a body of cavalry was sent to meet the advancing body. The colliers, hearing of the reception prepared for them, turned off in another direction, turning out everything in their way along.

More affrays between the people and the police took place; chiefly in the neighbourhood of Messrs Birley's and Messrs Stirling's mills, some of the hands in which were still working, under guard.

Hope seemed to strengthen with the people. Every hour brought some magnified report of popular successes. At the same time alarm increased with the middle classes, especially in Manchester; 300 policemen, and 570 soldiers, were all the regular means of defence for that town and its neighbourhood—for a population of 400,000 souls. But soldiers were little needed.

Thursday was a stirring day in many other places, as will be soon seen.

The possibility of an annual royal visit to Scotland, which was rumoured a few weeks ago, may now, we have happened to learn from a well-informed source, be considered as a probability. Lord Glenlyon went to Windsor last week to offer Blair Athole to the Queen and Prince Albert as a shooting place and deer park; and although the royal reply has not transpired, yet, as it is known that her Majesty had previously ordered inquiries to be made for an extensive shooting range, it is considered probable that the offer may be accepted. In that event, we might confidently look for an annual visit of the royal party to the Highlands.—*Fife Herald*.

EARLY HABITS OF BUSINESS.—It is officially announced that "His Royal Highness Albert Edward, Prince of Wales and Duke of Cornwall, has graciously been pleased by royal letters patent, under the privy seal, bearing date the 1st instant, to appoint and depute George Pearce, of Bradinch, in the county of Devon, Esq., to be his royal highness's gamekeeper, for and within the manor of Bradinch, parcel of the duchy of Cornwall, in the county of Devon.

We are credibly informed that Lord Ellenborough returns immediately to England from his high office of governor-general of India, and that it is probable he will come home in the Cambrian frigate. His lordship is to be succeeded by the Marquis of Tweedale, governor and commander-in-chief at Madras.—*Hampshire Telegraph*.

Mr G. Bernard, M.P. for Greenwich, has written a letter to the *Morning Chronicle*, giving an unqualified denial to the report that he was about to resign his seat for that borough.

The *Morning Post* contradicts the report that Lord Eliot is going out as governor of Canada. The *Hampshire Telegraph* says, that "Sir Charles Metcalf is to proceed forthwith to Canada, as governor-general of that province."

COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH FRANCE.—A commercial treaty between England and France has just been presented, signed, to the latter cabinet. It will reduce very considerably the import duties on wines, brandies, and silks, and will afford England fair grounds for demanding reductions on articles of English produce and manufactures in return. It will be published in about eight or ten days.—*Globe*. (French.)

THE REVENUE AND THE NATIONAL DEBT.—Tuesday night's *Gazette* contains the following:—"The lords commissioners of her Majesty's treasury having certified to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, in pursuance of the act 10th George IV., c. 27. sec. 1, that the actual expenditure of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland exceeded the actual revenue thereof, for the year ended the 10th day of October, 1842, by the sum of £2,523,823 13s. 11d.; the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt hereby give notice, that no sum will be applied by them on account of the sinking fund, under the provisions of the said act, between the 7th day of January, 1843, and the 5th day of April, 1843. S. Higham, comptroller-general. National Debt office, Jan. 7, 1843."

NO ALTERATION IN THE CORN LAWS.—Mr John Gladstone, of Fasque, father to the Vice-president of the Board of Trade, in the course of his reply to a letter from Mr M. Lindsey, of the Union Dundee bank, in Montrose, on the low price of agricultural produce and the necessity of landlords lowering their rents, makes the following declaration:—

"I believe they (the agriculturists) may be assured that no alteration is contemplated, or will be made, in the existing corn laws, either as to the principle or rates on duties on foreign corn, as has been stated by those whose object is no doubt to benefit by such rumours; those laws have so far worked well for all parties; and having abundance of our own growth at moderate prices, the importation of foreign corn is now completely at a stand, whilst some of what was imported has been again exported to other countries."

* No names have been given here, because the meeting was not, properly speaking, a public one—the public being necessarily excluded. There were no reporters present. Notes were made on the spot by the writer of these papers, which are here in part given.

METROPOLITAN.

INCOME TAX.—Upwards of 1,500 appeals have been lodged against the assessment of the income tax in the parish of St James, Clerkenwell. The office of the commissioners in this district has been the scene of much angry feeling.

ANTI-CORN-LAW AGITATION.—On Tuesday evening an adjourned meeting of electors of the borough of Marylebone took place at the rooms of the Reform association, for the purpose of completing the formation of a central borough anti-corn-law association, to carry out the objects of the great league fund. Mr W. Allen, who accepted the office of secretary at the previous meeting, announced that within the last two days he had had applications for, and given out cards for, the collection of the league fund in that borough to the amount of 3657. It was ultimately decided to hold a great public meeting at the Colosseum on Thursday, the 26th instant. Associations have been formed, and meetings held, in Kensington, Notting hill, Camberwell, Blackfriars, St Anne's, Soho, St Luke's, Islington, and various other places.

SOUTH ISLINGTON AND PENTONVILLE BRITISH SCHOOLS.—On Thursday evening the first anniversary of the South Islington and Pentonville British schools was held in the large room of the institution; Thomas Challis, Esq., in the chair. The attendance was numerous and highly respectable. These schools were formed in consequence of the intolerance of the high-church party of Islington, who refused to allow the Sunday-school children at the dissenting places of worship admittance to the schools which had been formed in that part of London, unless their parents made them attend at the parish churches on the Sabbath. In connexion with this institution, which has been established only one twelve-month, there are an infant school, a juvenile school, and a school of industry. The average number that attend to receive instruction is about 400, and the amount of debt remaining on the building, 1,9007. The education that is thus afforded to the children of the working classes of that neighbourhood is of the soundest description, being based upon the scriptures. It is formed on the model of the Glasgow Educational society, the distinctive feature of which is the prominence given to the moral training of the children. The Revs P. Lorimer, D. E. Ford, B. S. Hollis, J. Blackburn, Ridley Herschell, and M. Owen, addressed the meeting on the objects of the institution. It is highly creditable to the zeal and activity of the dissenters of Islington to support, solely from their own resources, an institution of such magnitude.

MORTALITY AT MARYLEBONE UNION HOUSE.—On Friday, at the meeting of the directors and guardians of the poor (Mr Rathbone in the chair), the attention of the board was directed to the alarming amount of mortality amongst the infant pauper children in the workhouse. The report of the eleventh board of auditors sets forth, that amongst 120 children under seven years of age, including those in the workhouse nursery, 47 had died, being at the rate of upwards of 34 per cent; but of those in the infant school, amounting to 71, the numbers which have died amounted to 41, being at the rate of nearly 60 per cent., the diseases being chiefly those of the lungs and measles. Complaint was made that several recent deaths had taken place from the latter disease. The board decided on at once entering into an inquiry, and called before them Miss Beevor, the mistress of the infant schools, who, in answer to questions, stated that she saw the children properly washed and cleaned daily, and paid proper attention to them. She had the duty devolved upon her, if the children were sick, to send over to the infirmary for the doctor. She usually kept children, when symptoms of measles broke out, at school, in order to see if it really was measles before she sent them to the doctor.

THE NEW CHAPEL ROYAL.—The workmen are now employed in constructing the chimney tower of the new chapel at the northern wing of Buckingham palace, which will form a conspicuous object in that wing on entering Piccadilly from Buckingham gate. The building is roofed in, and the works now progress rapidly.

The first criminal inmates of the newly-erected prison at Pentonville were sixteen convicts, who were draughted from Newgate about ten days ago. Six are under sentence of ten years' transportation, and the other ten of seven years.

THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—A number of workmen are employed, under the Woods and Forests, in preparing both houses for the approaching meeting of parliament on the 2nd of next month. The men were last week engaged in painting, white-washing, and otherwise renovating the body of the houses, and also the libraries, committee rooms, lobbies, &c. No material alterations are to be made in the interior of the houses.

THE MONUMENT TO THE SCOTTISH MARTYRS.—On Saturday at the meeting of the Marylebone vestry, a letter was read from the solicitor to the board of Woods and Forests, stating that the property on which the erection was to take place is the freehold property of her Majesty, and that the vestry have not the legal power to use it for such a purpose. They further threaten the vestry with a suit in Chancery. Mr Joseph hoped that this decision would effect the removal of the column to Leicester square, a place more suited for it. He then moved, "That orders be forthwith issued by the vestry to suspend all further proceedings relating to the erection of the Scottish monument in the Regent's circus, and that notice be immediately given to the architect to that effect." The motion was carried without a division, and it was ultimately decided to

send a copy of the communication, together with the decision the vestry had thought proper to come to, to Mr Hume.

MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS.—The total number of deaths from all causes, registered in the week ending Saturday the 7th inst., was 869 (451 males, and 418 females), viz:—Kensington, Chelsea, St George's (Hanover square), Westminster, St Martin's-in-the-fields, and St James's, 130; St Marylebone, St Pancras, Islington, and Hackney, 151; St Giles's, and St George's, Strand, Holborn, Clerkenwell, St Luke's, East London, West London, and City of London, 164; Shoreditch, Bethnal green, Whitechapel, St George's in the East, Stepney, and Poplar, 213; St Saviour's, St Olave's, Bermondsey, St George's (Southwark), Newington, Lambeth, Camberwell, Rotherhithe, and Greenwich, 211. The weekly average for the five previous years was 903; five previous winters, 1,004. Population in 1841, 1,870,727.

LONDON ANTIQUITIES.—Amongst the most important works now in progress in the City connected with its improvement is that of the extension of the sewerage through Lad lane, connected with the main leading sewer in Princes street. The excavations, which are from 18 to 20 feet deep, have, during the last week, exhibited some interesting facts relative to the early history of the city. Some few coins, principally of Antoninus, and a few interesting fragments of Roman and Samian pottery, with household utensils, have been found; but the chief objects of interest have been the discovery of some vestiges of the foundation walls of old Roman buildings. The most extensive of these was found last week opposite Mr Chaplin's, of the Swan-with-two-Necks, where the excavators arrived at a wall composed of flints about 18 feet below the surface, which was between five and six feet in thickness, and through which they had some difficulty in penetrating. Opposite to the church walls in Cateaton street, at the depth of 18 feet, there was found a large quantity of human bones, showing that there existed here a place of sepulture, which must have been coeval with the time of the Romans.—*Globe*.

CONSTITUTION HILL.—Workmen have been employed during the week in laying down pipes the length of the railings next the Green park, in order to supply water for the purpose of watering the walks and rides during the ensuing summer, the water having been hitherto brought from some distance by the contractor's carts.

THE HURRICANE ON FRIDAY.—On Thursday afternoon, about three o'clock, the fall of snow during the previous night and morning was succeeded by an intense frost, the thermometer falling during the evening as low as 20 degrees, being 12 degrees below freezing point, and at eight o'clock the sky was perfectly clear and the moonlight bright. Between 12 and 1 o'clock, however, the sky became obscured by a thick scud, which passed swiftly from south to north, and rapidly increased in density, the mercury at the same time rapidly rising. About nine o'clock on Friday morning there was a heavy fall of hail, and, as the forenoon advanced, the wind increased in violence, until, between twelve and one o'clock, it blew a perfect hurricane from the south-west, which lasted for nearly an hour. The wind continued very violent throughout the afternoon and evening. The damage done during the hurricane has been very extensive, and the streets of the metropolis were strewn with fragments of broken chimney-pots, tiles, slates, &c.; while, out of town, trees, palings, &c., have been blown down in all directions. In St James's and Hyde parks the promenades were covered with branches of trees. In Kensington gardens an ancient and stately elm, on the border of the black pond, which had for scores of years been the pride of the spot, has been torn up by the roots. On the north side (Bayswater) of the gardens, a lofty lime has shared the same fate; and an oak in the long avenue has also bit the dust, while, wherever the eye passes, are lying branches of trees. On the Palace green (Kensington), opposite the apartments of his Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, a large tree has also been torn up by the roots. At Brompton row, in the Fulham road, two venerable ash trees, which have for years formed part of a row skirting the edge of the footpath, were, between twelve and one o'clock, torn up by the roots; fortunately, though numerous persons and vehicles were passing along at the moment, no accident occurred. At Notting Hill, Shepherd's Bush, and other elevated and open parts, nearly every house suffered, more or less. In Holland park much damage has been done to the trees; and in the Addison road a greenhouse, on the premises of Mr Jackson, was blown down. Up the river, about Chelsea, Fulham, Putney, Wandsworth, Hammersmith, Richmond, &c., several barges (some heavily laden), with boats of every description, drifted from their moorings by the force of the wind, and although the major part of them were driven on shore, several were said to have been sunk. Along the shore on each side the walls and palings were blown down in all directions, and considerable damage was done to many of the market gardens by the influx of the tide. The ravages occasioned by the hurricane on Friday, Friday night, and Saturday, were very severely felt by the inhabitants residing at Islington, Kingsland, Hackney, and the vicinity, by the destruction of trees, stacks of chimneys, walls, fences, &c. In Church street, Hackney, an elm tree which had stood many years facing the house of Mr Ferguson, the proprietor of a school, was blown down. Mr Bowen, landlord of the White Lion, Hackney Wick, was a great sufferer. A large fence was blown down, several trees were injured, &c., and an ash tree was leveled with the ground. A wall about ten yards long and thir-

teen feet high, belonging to Mr Slack, at Upper Clapton, was also entirely demolished. At a short distance from the Sir Walter Scott, in the same neighbourhood, a small house in the occupation of a person named Millwood, was completely blown to pieces on Friday night. Fortunately there was not an inmate in at the time. At the Upper terrace, Islington, a wall was also blown down. The lead of many houses was torn up, and among those who suffered was Mr Johnson, the superintendent of the N division. The gales during the past week, which appear to have been generally destructive throughout the country, have done considerable damage in the neighbourhood of Claremont and Esher. Several trees have been blown down in the park, and the plantations and shrubberies in the vicinity have been injured to a great extent. In the course of the night of Friday the royal standard, which was hoisted on the steeple of Esher church, in honour of her Majesty's visit, was literally blown into shreds. At Ditton, Hook, Chessington, and Hampton, the severity was equally experienced, and considerable damage has been done to numerous buildings in all situations exposed to their fury.

FALLING OF A GALLERY IN A CHAPEL.—On Sunday afternoon the greatest consternation was created amongst the congregation of Queen street chapel, situate in Queen street, Webber row, Lambeth. It appears that the anniversary sermons of the Sunday school connected with that place, were preached on that day, and in order to provide additional accommodation for the numerous visitors on the occasion, a temporary gallery was erected for the use of the children, which was built with scaffold poles and boards, and was about fourteen feet from the floor. During the public examination of the children, about half past three o'clock, the whole ponderous mass, containing upwards of fifty children, suddenly fell with a tremendous crash to the floor beneath, and the whole of the children fell between the boards, &c., while the greater part of the congregation imagining that the roof of the chapel was falling in, rushed to the doors, screaming in an awful manner. Several persons immediately rushed into the place and assisted to rescue the children, when it was found that many of them were very severely hurt, and they were carried home to their friends near the spot. One boy, of the name of Gaddes, who resides in Witley street, Waterloo road, was so dreadfully injured as to render his recovery doubtful.

DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION IN THE OLD KENT ROAD.—One of the most alarming and destructive fires which have visited the metropolis for many years broke out on Monday evening about seven o'clock, in the floorcloth manufactory of Mr Josiah Rolls, situate near the Canal bridge, in the Old Kent road. The premises occupied a most commanding situation, fronting the main road, and extending to a width of about 60 feet, running back to a depth of 150. The alarm was first given by Mr Kale, the managing clerk of Mr Rolls, who was engaged in the counting-house, when his attention was suddenly attracted by an immense glare of light in the lower floor of the warehouse, at some distance from the entrance, and rushing out he discovered that the whole of the lower part of the premises in the rear of the building was in flames. In less than ten minutes from its discovery, the whole building was on fire from top to bottom, and the heat from the burning mass became so intense that it was found necessary, although the road is in this spot nearly eighty feet wide, to throw water on the houses opposite to prevent their igniting. The factory belonging to Mr Goulston was a very lofty building, rising to a considerable height over the dwellings in Ilanger place, and was in consequence exposed to the full action of the flames, which at this time shot through the roof of Mr Roll's warehouse. A very short time elapsed before the rafters of this building caught fire, and the most fearful apprehensions were felt for the safety of the whole neighbourhood. The workmen and others in the service of Mr Goulston had been some time, previously engaged in removing the property, and continued to labour incessantly until long after the flames had reached the second floor of the warehouse when the heat became so intense that they were compelled to desist. Up to eight o'clock no engines had arrived, and no water could be procured from the neighbourhood, so that on their arrival, all hopes of saving any part of the premises to which the fire had already communicated was at an end, and the labours of the firemen were confined to the salvage of the surrounding premises, on which, after obtaining a supply of water, large quantities were thrown by the engines. The origin of the fire is not discovered at present, but is supposed to have arisen from gas. The engines were engaged the whole night in playing upon the burning ruins. The two immense floorcloth factories of Mr Rolls, Mr Goulston's factory, and three dwelling houses were consumed by the fire. Mr Roll's property is insured for £24,000, Mr Goulston's for £8,700, and the houses for a large amount, so that it is expected the fire insurance companies will suffer a loss of between £30,000 and £40,000.

FIRE IN THE BOROUGH, AND DISCOVERY OF AN ILLEGAL STILL.—On Sunday morning, about five o'clock, an alarming fire broke out on the premises of Mr J. Peagham, charcoal grinder, situate in King street, in the Borough. Before the engines could arrive, the whole of the premises, being principally composed of wood, were soon in one mass of flame. As soon as water could be procured the engines commenced playing upon the fire, which in the course of an hour was fortunately subdued, but not before the whole of the building where the fire commenced, together with the mill, machinery, and stock, had been consumed. A large building which adjoins the place where the

fire originated was also seriously damaged in the upper part of it. The building was formerly used as an ale and beer store, but for a considerable time past has been apparently untenanted; but, to the great surprise of the firemen, on their entering the place they found an illicit still in full operation. Those employed in the working, on the outbreak of the fire, immediately made their escape. The excise were apprised of the circumstance, and some officers soon made their appearance, and took possession of the premises, seizing the plant and a large quantity of wash and spirits ready for consumption. The damage done was very considerable, and it was not known how the fire originated.

FIRE IN LAMB'S CONDUIT STREET.—On Sunday night, about eight o'clock, a fire, attended with great loss of property, broke out in the shop of Mr Bourne, hatter, Lamb's Conduit street; and, unfortunately, notwithstanding the prompt arrival of several engines, extended its ravages to many of the buildings adjoining. By ten o'clock all cause for further alarm had ceased, but no account could be obtained of the origin of the fire. The following is the loss:—Mr Bourne, stock all destroyed, insured in the Phoenix office; Mr Walsh, cabinet maker, all destroyed, in the Guardian office; and several other buildings damaged by water. The loss is estimated at about £800, including an immense quantity of furs destroyed by the fire.

FIRE ESCAPES.—A suggestion made by a correspondent of the *Times*, recommending the construction of large rope nets, by means of which persons may escape from the upper parts of buildings in case of fire, has been carried into practical effect by Captain R. J. Elliott and Captain Pierce, the honourable secretaries of that benevolent institution the London Sailors' Home, Wells street, who immediately ordered a net to be constructed, to test the utility of the proposed plan. A trial of the net was made on the 2nd instant with the most perfect success, in the presence of the police authorities of the Whitechapel division. A very heavy representative of a man was prepared and launched from a second-floor window, a distance of forty feet, into the street—the net received it with great ease, and all agree that human life would, under such circumstances, have been saved, and that without any bodily injury. The net is three yards square, and twelve rope lanyards are attached to it, by which means the persons hold it firmly up.

PROVINCIAL.

THE REPRESENTATION OF WEST NORFOLK.—It is now matter of universal report and belief, that one vacancy, if not two, will be created in the representation of West Norfolk, when parliament meets. We do not presume to authenticate these rumours by any allusion to the causes—we merely content ourselves with the fact that they have obtained general credence. The consequences, should they turn out to be true, may be important nationally as well as locally, because this will be amongst the first appeals made to a division of an agricultural county since the measures of the present government have been brought to bear, and have been tested by their effects on land, trade, and revenue.—*Norwich Mercury*.

THE LEAGUE FUND.—At the usual weekly meeting at the Corn exchange, Manchester, George Wilson, Esq., chairman of the council of the League, detailed the progress of the subscription.

"On Thursday evening there was a tea party at Accrington, which was attended by Mr Bright and Mr Rawson. At Colne on Friday evening; on Monday evening at Todmorden; on Tuesday evening at Lancaster; in fact, at Lancaster, there were two tea parties on that evening. On Wednesday evening there was a large meeting at Preston, which was attended by the two members for that borough, Sir Heslith Fleetwood and Sir George Strickland, both of whom addressed that meeting. At all these meetings I have enumerated, subscriptions are entered into in aid of the great league fund. At Todmorden, on Monday evening, the subscription reached £353—and at Preston upwards of £500 was raised in the room. At Newcastle-under-Lyne a tea party was held last Tuesday, and nearly £100 was raised in the room."

Respecting the distribution of tracts he informed the meeting—

"I made inquiries before coming here to learn what quantity had been issued during the present year, and the reply was, 'between six and seven tons weight!' I inquired how many had been issued during the last three days—for to-day's quantity had not been made up—and I found that the number amounted to nearly three millions and a half of publications. Now all these are in course of distribution. Tracts have been distributed already to many of the electors of the counties. We know that these documents are producing good, for we have proofs of it arriving from day to day; we have subscriptions from parties who never read publications of the kind before, who never subscribed before, and the prevailing opinion is that whatever may be the success of our efforts in the manufacturing districts, in the agricultural districts among the intelligent farmers, whatever may have been their conduct at past elections, at the next there will be a greater development of free trade feeling than ever was witnessed even in the manufacturing towns."

The Revds Mr Thornton of Stockport, and Mr Massie of Manchester, addressed the meeting at considerable length.

LIVERPOOL COLLEGIATE INSTITUTION.—This building, the foundation stone of which was laid by Lord Stanley about two years ago, was opened on Saturday, the 7th inst. The institution is a large building, comprising three day schools to accommodate the three great classes of society, with separate apartments, play-grounds, divisions of the lecture hall, and so forth. The whole of the amount required for its erection was £24,000, which was entirely subscribed by the inhabitants of the town. The Mayor,

the Bishop of Chester, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., Sir Howard Douglas, M.P., Mr J. W. Patten, M.P., and many other of the distinguished persons were present. Mr Gladstone delivered the inaugural address, in place of Lord Stanley, who was unavoidably absent. This address has for the last week excited much discussion among the metropolitan journals: the tory papers complaining of its too great liberality, though there are but feeble evidences of this quality in his address. He urged the necessity of education being based on religious instruction, and expatiated with great eloquence on the importance of education. One of the arguments adduced is as follows—an argument almost unique in reference to the questions mentioned:—

"Those, therefore, who in their sphere—be it more or less extensive, and I, as one of the least among them—those who are appointed to watch over the laws and institutions of the country—they know (at least they ought to know, the best of all men), that inasmuch as we must look to the great mass of the intelligent community for the means of upholding our institutions, of supporting the throne and the aristocracy, of supporting the church, of supporting all which some men admit to be relics of the dark ages, but which we believe to be sound in their principles and ought to be deeply rooted in the affections of the people; public men, I say, ought, of all others, to know best how important it must be so to train the minds of the population in sound and useful knowledge—in knowledge which will really bear the criterion of a searching examination, and not in that which, unfortunately, too often passes by the name of sound and useful knowledge without pretension to the substance."

SOUTHAMPTON, JANUARY 16.—The peninsular steamer, *Royal Tar*, Captain Brooks, sailed on Saturday afternoon for Falmouth, to receive the mail for Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, and the Mediterranean. On the same day the *Great Liverpool*, Captain M'Leod, that brought the Indian mail, arrived in Southampton water from the Motherbank, where she had been performing quarantine since Thursday. This day, the *Lady Mary Wood*, Captain Cooper, arrived here from the Peninsula, being two days after the usual period for arriving here. Her late arrival was owing to tempestuous weather which she experienced during the voyage, particularly while crossing the Bay of Biscay. The *West India steamer*, *Thames*, Captain Hast, left to-day for Falmouth, to take on board mails for the West Indies. This town felt the violence of the gales last week, although happily no serious accident happened. A large number of boats were swamped. A peninsular steamer broke from her moorings, and great fears were entertained for the safety of the pier on Friday morning, from the number of large steamers that were moored alongside. Several unfinished houses on Shirley common received considerable damage. These were all the casualties that occurred. The National Sailor's Home and Evangelical society, which has been established in this town, was dissolved at a meeting on Thursday last, and declared to be a public imposition.

THE MANCHESTER FREE TRADE HALL AND BANQUET.—This vast building is now nearly covered in; and, when completed, the ceiling is to be plastered and whitewashed, which will greatly add to the dryness and comfort of the hall. The committee have decided that a gallery shall be carried along both sides and one end of the hall; the side galleries to project about 9 feet, and the end one about 11 feet 6 inches. The side galleries will have two seats and the end one three seats in depth. As the banquet is to extend over several days, the council have resolved on entertaining 4,000 a-day. This prodigious hall is 45 yards by 35 in the interior. Rows of cast iron pillars support the roof; and that there may be accommodation for the enormous quantity of stores and attendants, three adjoining streets are to be roofed in as store rooms and lobbies. For waiters 150 men are being drilled for the occasion. In the Potteries 10,000 plates and 3,000 dishes are being made for the dinner and dessert. Sheffield is preparing for the same 12,000 forks and knives, and 800 salt and mustard spoons. Lancashire is making the glass, 4,000 tumblers, 4,000 wine glasses, 400 salts, and 400 mustard pots. On the first day there will be put on the table 200 dishes of tongue, 200 dishes of ham, 200 dishes of veal pies, 200 dishes of sandwiches, 200 dishes of sausages, 4,000 small loaves, 4,000 cabin biscuits, 230 canisters of wine biscuits (3lb each canister), 200 dishes of sponge and seed cakes, 4,000 pies, 2,400 Bath buns, 200 dishes of almonds and raisins, 400 of grapes, 2,400 oranges, 2,400 apples, 200 dishes of nuts, and wine as it may be ordered by the guests. The tickets of admission are to be 7s. 6d. gentlemen, and 5s. for ladies. On the second day, all the provisions will be increased by one half. It is not yet ascertained what the arrangements are to be for the third and fourth days; but the prices of admission are calculated so as to pay all expenses, and leave an overplus for the league fund.—*Manchester Guardian*.

INCOME TAX.—The guardians of the Plomesgate union have been assessed at £300 to the property tax, for the workhouse at Wickham Market. The guardians appealed against the assessment on the ground that the workhouse was not assessed to the poor rate, and therefore was not liable to the property tax. The surveyor contended that, although not rated it was liable to be taxed; but it afterwards turned out that it was assessed to the poor rate at £300, but the guardians having refused to pay, and the magistrates declining to grant a distress warrant, unless upon a mandamus, it had been left out of the rate book and no rate since demanded.

THE VELVETEENS.—We last week inserted a paragraph in reference to a present of a printed velvet, with a design representing a stalk and ear of wheat, with the word "Free" written under, made to Sir R. Peel by Mr W. Barlow, of Manchester. The premier accepted the present, but the circum-

stance having caused some indignation among the conservative press, Sir R. Peel returned the present, saying that when he accepted it he did not know it bore any allusion to matters that were the subject of public controversy." Mr Barlow explained, in reply, that he had no intention of connecting the gift with public controversy, and so the matter stands.

STATE OF TRADE.—There has been but little variation in the manufacturing markets during the last week. In Leeds it was expected some improvement would have taken place, but this has been far from the case. The Manchester market exhibited some improvement, stocks being very low, and prices firm. From Bradford, Halifax, and Huddersfield the accounts are much to the same tenour, and all appear to be looking forward to a more healthy state of business before long.

CAPTURE OF ROBBERS IN JERSEY.—The police have succeeded in unkenneled a gang of footpads and housebreakers who had made their haunt near the First Tower. Six of them were housed in gaol on Sunday, two more on Monday, and a ninth is known and pursued. A second gang is known to exist in another quarter, and the police are hourly expecting to be in possession of definite evidence enough to justify their immediate seizure.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE NORTH MIDLAND RAILWAY.—On Wednesday morning last, a serious and melancholy accident occurred on this railway, in which the life of a gentleman, between 30 and 40 years of age, named Mr Harvey, a commercial traveler from the house of Messrs Findlay, Maclean, and Co., of Glasgow, was sacrificed. The train, which leaves Leeds at 5 30 p. m., had proceeded as far as Barnsley station, where it usually stops to take up or let down passengers, when Edward Jenkins, driver of a luggage train, ran into the passenger train as it stood at the station. The usual signals were given to Jenkins, but from some cause or other were not observed. There were only three carriages in the passenger train, and fortunately only one passenger. The carriages were all smashed to pieces, and the engine of the luggage train greatly injured. It is most providential that there was only one passenger; had there been many, the catastrophe would have been unspeakably awful. Jenkins escaped unhurt, and the stoker to his engine, with the top of one finger, and some injury to another; but the less fortunate Mr Harvey was pitched from the wreck of carriages in a lifeless state, entirely deprived of his skull, which had been split into four sections, each containing a portion of the brain, which were found about four yards distant from the body. The amount of damage to the engine and the carriages, we believe, will not be less than £700 or £800.

EXPENSIVE FUEL.—A few days ago a respectable merchant residing in Woolwich had occasion to go into his kitchen, and at the time had a 20l. bank of England note in his hand. His attention having been drawn to an object, he laid down the bank note on the table in a crumpled state, and having been suddenly called to the shop, left the kitchen without taking it with him. On returning in two or three minutes afterwards to the kitchen, his astonishment may be better conceived than described, when the servant told him, in answer to inquiries respecting the 20l. note, that seeing what was considered a useless piece of paper lying on the table, it had been used in helping to kindle the fire, which was slow in igniting at the time. The loser of the note has been to the bank to ascertain if there was a probability of his recovering its value, but this is not probable, as he has no remnant to show that the lost note was actually destroyed as has been represented.

DREADFUL HURRICANE.

The desolating storm which raged with such violent fury in the metropolis, appears to have visited almost every part of the island and some places with fearful and calamitous severity. The most singular fact in connexion with it, was the extraordinary depression of the barometer—a depression which has not been equalled during the last 30 years. In Liverpool, on Friday, the fall was from 28.92 to 28.05 and all expected some awful visitation was impending. The same phenomenon was observed in the metropolis, at Manchester, and elsewhere. The following are a few of the more prominent results of this dreadful hurricane.

LIVERPOOL.—In this town hundreds of families never ventured to bed during the whole of Friday night. At about two o'clock it is said to have been terrific. The river was one sheet of foam, and the waves, even at low water, running as high as if it had been a full tide in calm weather. Chimneys and chimney-pots, walls, and roofs of buildings, were blown down in great abundance. But, unhappily, more serious casualties occurred. One of these took place in Epworth street, London road. About half-past one o'clock a stack of three chimneys fell upon the roof of the house of John Pace, an industrious journeyman organ pipe maker, and carried it through two floors into the cellar below. On the first floor the occupant of the house, his wife, and a child, were in bed; and two children, who had been brought from an upper apartment on account of the roaring of the wind, were in the same room. All these were carried below with the falling ruins, and buried under the rubbish. About four o'clock, as Inspector Morley, of the police, was going his rounds, he heard, when in the vicinity, a moaning, and set himself to work to ascertain the cause. He soon discovered it, raised the alarm, and, with the assistance of Mr C. B. Greatreux, surgeon, and others who were attracted to the spot and rendered the most active and useful service, broke open the door. The awful misfortune that had befallen the inmates of the house

was then exposed to view. It being evident that some persons were alive under the rubbish, the party immediately proceeded to remove it; and by half-past six the whole family were taken out alive, and found to have sustained only trifling injuries. The joists and beams had fallen over them in such a manner as to protect them from the superincumbent mass; and a hole had been left which admitted sufficient air to save them from suffocation. One of the children was taken to the infirmary, but none of its bones were broken, and its injuries consisted only of bruises. The mother was near her confinement, but, we believe, has not experienced much inconvenience from the fright. It was her moaning which first drew the attention of the police inspector, and led to the discovery of the accident. The husband states that he was, at first, rendered insensible by the fall, and was aroused by the moaning of his wife. In Netherfield road, Everton, and Toxteth park, several trees were blown down. In Birkenhead the gable end of a house and an incomplete cottage were blown down, and various other damage of the same description were caused by the storm. The various steamers on the river were unable to make their usual trips, and some were obliged to return with their passengers. The vessels in the river rode out the storm, but, in many cases, with extreme difficulty. The tide rose, through the force of the wind, many feet above the calculated rise, and caused, at high water, a terrific sea, which frequently broke over the numerous craft at anchor in the river. A schooner at anchor in the quarantine ground was overwhelmed by the sea and sunk. The crew, it is feared, were drowned. Several flats were also sunk. The disasters at sea were fearfully numerous and appalling. The schooner Hale, from Creetown, sunk off Crosby point, and four out of five of the crew were drowned. An American ship, the St Petersburg, went ashore on the Jordan flats, and the crew, twenty-six in number, were with the greatest difficulty rescued from a watery grave by the life boat and a steam tug. The John Cummings, from New Orleans, and the Vernon, were driven ashore and became wrecks. In the latter case three of the crew were drowned. Two men were blown off the fore-yard of the American ship Adirondack, and were drowned. Various other disasters, attended with less fatal results occurred to the shipping of this port.

PLYMOUTH.—During the night of the 12th and the morning of Friday the 13th instant, the town of Plymouth and its vicinity was visited by a tremendous gale from the west, west-south-west, and south-west, accompanied by heavy showers of rain. The casualties on the land were principally confined to the prostration of chimneys and partial unroofing of houses, without any personal injury. Afloat great damage was done, but it is believed that no lives are known to have been lost. The schooner Belle, of Plymouth, Curtis, master, was beached at Deadman's bay. The three brigs Sea Witch, Baker; Southampton, Symons; and General Brock, all of London, were stranded in Batten bay. The bark Bragilla, of Falmouth, became a total wreck at Bovisod bay. A brigantine from Marseilles to Liverpool got into port with loss of sails. The brig Mayflower, which stranded on the south side of the breakwater on the 3d instant, was carried by the force of the waves clear over it, and now lies nearly perpendicular on the north or inner side. So great was the force of the wind that lead weighing nearly a ton was peeled off one of the sheds in her Majesty's dockyard, where other effects of its strength have been manifested. The chimney of the manor office, Devonport, fell on the coach-house, and crushed a carriage and gig. In the Plymouth citadel the slates were blown from the roof of the barracks to the ramparts, and the lead on the chapel there was turned up like so much paper. Many chimneys were blown down in Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse, and Stoke, and in some cases the inmates had been compelled to escape through the windows.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Friday a most terrific gale of wind visited the town, and continued without intermission all day. The sloop William IV., from Cowes; the brig Moore, from Southampton; the brig Wanderer, of Bideford for Ipswich, sustained great damage—the two former went ashore, the latter lost anchors, chains, and windlass, but got safe into Langstone harbour. The Two Brothers, from Weymouth, and the Yarrowborough steamer, both went ashore, and were with difficulty got off again next morning. A sloop and a two-masted vessel were observed at anchor, riding heavily, about five miles S. S. W. of Cumberland fort, this morning, at daylight; they both sank shortly afterwards, and it is feared all hands have perished. The mast-heads of the two-masted vessels are visible. Several houses at Southsea are much damaged in roofs, chimneys, and windows. The dockyard buildings are, some of them, also slightly damaged; and Lord Ashburton's new marine villa, in Stokes bay, was also seriously injured.

TROWBRIDGE.—The chimneys of a large factory were blown down, and upwards of £600 of damage done. At the time of the hurricane several vessels were lying at anchor in Kingroad, and much apprehension was felt for their safety; it was found that most of them had started their anchors and were driven ashore at the mouth of the river, but without suffering much damage. The Pomona, bound for the West Indies, started her anchor, and was driven down channel quite out of sight; but so variable was the wind, that shortly afterwards she was driven back again by the fury of the tempest, and went ashore in the mouth of the river. Among those which went ashore, were the Reform from Glasgow, the Caroline for Tobago, the Mayflower for Bonny, the Active for Bridgewater, a Prussian brig, and one or two others. The Mermaid steamer, from Cork, Captain Horne, belonging to the Bristol General Steam Navigation

company, arrived on Friday, after having experienced the full fury of the gale, by which she was much damaged, her bulwarks being stove in and her star-board paddle-box broken in fragments. She states that she first encountered the hurricane when about midway across the Irish channel on Thursday night. She weathered the gale until she came abreast of Lundy island on Friday afternoon, where her bulwarks were stove in and upwards of 50 pigs washed overboard. During the remainder of the voyage the sea continued to sweep over her with fearful violence and to pour into her hold, by which means, upon her arrival, it was found that upwards of 200 pigs were washed overboard or suffocated. Nothing but the superiority of her machinery saved her, in the opinion of the crew.

YARMOUTH.—During Thursday night and Friday morning it blew a heavy gale at this port from the south and south west. In the early part of the storm, a brig, the York, Captain Smith, belonging to London, while on her passage to Goole, succeeded in effecting an entrance into the harbour, though much damaged, having lost her bowsprit and boats. The schooner Phoenix, of London, was driven ashore at about one o'clock this morning, between seven and eight miles up the coast to the northward of the town, and it is feared will go to pieces. The crew saved themselves by the boats. Two other vessels, one the John Simes, from Aberdeen, and the other the Celia, Captain Longstaff, of and from London to Sunderland, were also both driven ashore off the town. Should the weather moderate, there is a chance of getting them off. During the morning, upwards of 200 vessels lost their anchors and cables by the extraordinary violence of the wind. Between two and three o'clock the John and William, belonging to Newhaven, Master George Smith, from this port, was totally lost on the beach at Bearside, about two miles to the west of Newhaven harbour. The master, two seamen, and a Newhaven pilot succeeded in reaching the shore in safety; but the rest, consisting of a young man, a seaman named Jones, and the cabin boy, were unfortunately drowned. Since then the beach has been strewn with the remains of the vessel.

BRIGHTON.—From twelve o'clock on Thursday night, this town was visited with a most terrific storm, the wind blowing from the S.W., and the rain and hail pouring occasionally in torrents. Business was at a complete stand-still on Friday, the whole of the shops in the King's road were kept close shut, and scarcely a house that was not protected by outside shutters, but has several panes of glass blown in. Several stacks of chimneys were blown down, and the lead and slates stripped off the roofs of the houses. Between ten and eleven, a schooner was despatched off the town with a signal of distress flying; a number of fishermen made preparations to render her assistance, and as it was expected she would run ashore a short distance from the town, the life-boat was put upon a truck drawn by four post horses. In a short time, the schooner ran ashore at the Wish, near Hove, about two miles westward of Brighton. Several of the preventive men and fishermen were promptly on the spot, and two of the preventive men named Young and Murphy, and two of the fishermen, with ropes round their bodies, rushed into the sea. Young was the first to board the vessel, and discovered the crew, five in number, in a helpless condition, lashed to the rigging, nearly benumbed with the continual washing of the sea. With considerable difficulty they succeeded in getting them ashore, and conveyed them to the Ship inn at Hove, where Mr Wing, the landlord, supplied them with beds, and every comfort that humanity could suggest. A boy belonging to the crew was so much exhausted, that his recovery for some time was considered doubtful. The vessel proved to be the Prince Regent, of London, bound to Portsmouth, with a general cargo. About eleven o'clock, another schooner laden with barley, the property of Mr Catt, the brewer, went ashore at Bearside, when, melancholy to relate, two of the crew were drowned, notwithstanding every assistance possible was rendered by the coast guard men. Four of the Brighton trawl-boats, with their crews, missing, and the greatest anxiety was manifested, as several spars and pieces of wreck were coming ashore. A fine brig belonging to Messrs Cheeseman, named the George, was off the town on Friday, and in the course of the day one of her spars was picked up; but it is hoped she has reached some place of refuge, being nearly a new vessel. Intelligence was brought that a brig was ashore at Bognor, and the crew lost. Some of the old fishermen declared that they never saw the waves run so high: they occasionally covered the chain pier. Although that beautiful structure rocked very much, it has escaped uninjured. The wind absolutely brought the eleven o'clock Shoreham train to a stand-still. The Defiance, Portsmouth coach, which left Brighton at four o'clock, was blown over, near Shoreham, and the passengers so much injured that they were obliged to be conveyed back to Brighton.

TAUNTON.—On Tuesday a violent tempest of thunder and lightning, with heavy showers of rain, broke over this town, and which prevailed from two until daylight, when the wind, which had blown violently, in some degree subsided. The flashes of the electric fluid were remarkably vivid. During the storm, which was at its height about half-past five, a fire ball penetrated the dome of the house belonging to Josiah Easton, Esq., of Heale, near Bradford, which, conducted by the bell wires, ran through the premises in various directions, and dispersed with a loud explosion. The venerable and worthy owner describes the appearance of his bedroom to have been as if it were entirely in flames. The damage occasioned is principally among the glass, doors,

and door posts, but no personal mischief was sustained. At the same time a cow, in a field near Trull, was struck dead by the lightning.—*Dorset Chronicle.*

TYNEMOUTH CASTLE.—On Thursday night the wind blew a terrific hurricane from the south-west, accompanied by a severe frost of thunder and lightning. At about a quarter to one o'clock, a light vessel was observed off the entrance of the harbour, apparently in distress, and endeavouring to take shelter by running over the bar. Just as she reached within a short distance of the bar, a heavy wave struck her amidships, throwing her on her beam-ends, and she immediately drove on to the rocks. In an instant a number of gallant young men pushed off with the life boat, and made towards the unfortunate vessel, which proved to be the John and Isabella of Sunderland, in ballast. Another brig then made its appearance at the mouth of the harbour, and was driven by the violence of the hurricane, in the course of a short time, upon the same mass of rocks. After considerable exertion the life-boat succeeded in reaching the John and Isabella, and the crew, consisting of eight persons, with the master, were taken off the wreck, and safely brought back to the shore. Those, however, on board the other wreck were less fortunate, as three of the crew and the captain perished in an attempt to gain the shore.

FIRE AT SHEPTON MALLET.—On Tuesday evening, January 10th, about six o'clock, a fire broke out at the crape and silk factory of Messrs Hardisty, of Dasshill, situated between the towns of Wells and Shepton Mallet. In about three hours and a half the whole of the premises were burnt down. The front wall, back wall, roof, and the whole of the floor fell in; the flames were so powerful that no assistance could be rendered. It is supposed there is £40,000 damage done; but the property is understood to be insured in about £30,000. The premises are between 60 and 70 yards in length, and seven stories high, and is one of the largest factories round this part of the country. It is supposed there will be 600 hands out of employ, owing to this misfortune. The fire broke out with such rapidity that the poor girls and boys were obliged to run for their lives, leaving their bonnets, cloaks, patters, hats, caps, and shawls; out of nearly 400 of them not many of them but lost something of small value. No lives were lost.—*Bath Journal.*

IRELAND.

STATE OF TIPPERARY.—This wretched district has again been disgraced by another of those foul murders which have long made Tipperary a byword and blot upon the map of Ireland. The last victim, it will be seen from the subjoined account, extracted from the *Nenagh Guardian*, was a person of the humbler class; and no cause is assigned which led to the commission of the dreadful deed:—"Again blood has been shed—again the gaping wounds of the murdered cry unto Heaven for vengeance upon ill-fated Tipperary. The reign of assassination is again commencing, and the uplifted arm of the law seems to have lost its terrors with the savage peasantry. On the evening of Thursday, about half-past seven o'clock, Thomas Bourke, herdsman to Mr James Scully, was waylaid and murdered in Tipperary, by two men, who assaulted him with stones. The left side of his skull was broken in. On Friday an inquest was held on view of the body by Captain Bradshaw, and a verdict of 'Wilful murder' returned."

ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE.—On Tuesday evening last, as Mr Edmond Byrne, of Lisnure, near Templemore, was returning from the fair of Thurles, he was fired at from a grove of trees, at the entrance to his own house, but providentially escaped the assassin's bullet, in consequence of riding a spirited horse, which was in full gallop at the time the shot was fired. The brother of Mr Byrne was shot about three years since, near his own home, he having sinned against the agrarian code, by taking some land from Mr Valentine Maher, M.P., from which a man named Feely had been ejected. Mr Edmond Byrne holds his lands under the commissioners of the endowed school of Clonmel, and has not a single acre sublet. In addition to these alarming facts, the *Kilkenny Moderator* states that, "as a proof of the progress of the landlord crusade in Tipperary, armed parties are scouring the country, serving notices on landlords 'not to farm any portion of their own estates;' and in some instances these nocturnal legislators have threatened one of them with death unless he forthwith let a farm at a nominal rent, and under a long lease."

DEATH OF COLONEL CLEMENTS, M.P.—Colonel Clement, one of the members for Cavan, died suddenly at his seat in the country, on Wednesday last. Several gentlemen are already spoken of as likely to come forward on the conservative interest; in the present state of the constituency none but a conservative would have the least chance of success.

SCOTLAND.

ANTI-CORN-LAW BANQUET AT GLASGOW.—This grand demonstration against the corn laws took place in the City hall, Glasgow. The banquet was preceded by the presentation of the freedom of the city to Mr Cobden by the lord provost, Sir James Campbell, in the presence of all the liberal and some of the conservative councillors. The Provost avowed his individual difference of opinion from the new citizen, but paid him a handsome compliment on his distinguished position in the political and commercial world. Mr Cobden disclaimed personal title to what he regarded as an act of the council to mark its favour of a principle. The banquet took place at six o'clock. "In

point of influence and respectability, this meeting has never been surpassed by any held in the West of Scotland," says the report. The hall was elaborately fitted up for the occasion; platforms were erected at each end for the Chairman's and Vice-chairman's tables; forty tables occupied the area of the hall; the building was decorated with pictures painted for the occasion, including portraits of the Queen and Prince Albert. The viands were wines, fruits, and cakes. The western gallery was set apart for ladies, of whom one hundred and fifty were present; among them Mrs Fox Maule, and her sister, the Honourable Miss Abercromby. The chairman was Mr James Oswald, one of the members for the city; the principal vice-chairman was Mr Alexander Johnston, M.P.; among the guests, besides Mr Cobden and Colonel Thompson, were Mr Fox Maule, Mr Patrick Maxwell Stewart, Sir John C. Fairlie, the chief magistrate of Gorbals, the provost of Glasgow, Mr Wallace the member for Greenock, Mr Duncan the member for Dundee, and several leading men in Glasgow; altogether, the party amounted to two thousand. Letters from several noblemen and gentlemen were read, expressing concurrence in the objects of the meeting, and regret at the inability to be present. Mr Cobden's speech was characterised as one of his best efforts. Mr Fox Maule, in the course of his address, declared himself a convert to total repeal. The speeches were numerous, and the proceedings terminated at a late hour.

INDICTMENT OF DUNDEE CHARTISTS.—Indictments have been served upon John Duncan, chartist preacher, presently out on bail; John Penny, mechanic; Hugh Ross, tailor; James Graham, weaver; John Scott, flax dresser; Peter Bennet, flax dresser; all prisoners in Dundee gaol. Indictments were also left at the dwelling-places of William Clarke, cutler or grinder; Thomas Anderson, flax dresser; John Mitchell, weaver and warper; and James Pryde or Pride, joiner; all of whom absconded shortly after the riots, and have not since been heard of. The indictment charges them with the crimes of mobbing and rioting; as also breach of the peace by the wicked and felonious convention or assembling of large numbers or multitudes of people combined together for some illegal purpose, to the great terror and alarm of the lieges. The trials were to take place on Monday, before the High Court of Justiciary, at Edinburgh, and there are seventy-four witnesses summoned for the prosecution.

EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW RAILWAY.—On Tuesday an accident occurred on the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway, which was well nigh attended with fatal consequences. A sailor, who was a passenger in the seven o'clock down goods train, had gone out at Castlecary to get a cup of coffee during the stoppage which takes place at that station. At this time the eight o'clock passenger train came forward, and, hearing the bell ring, the sailor supposed it to be the signal for the starting of his own train, and rushed out to take his place. He was in the act of crossing the line for that purpose when the passenger train came upon him, and with tremendous force threw him forward; but fortunately he fell out of the line, and thus escaped being crushed to death. He was, nevertheless, much injured, but was in a state to be removed to Glasgow by the train which followed at eleven o'clock.—*Glasgow Herald*.

SIX MEN DROWNED.—It is our melancholy duty this day to record the following distressing and fatal circumstances:—It appears that the fishermen of Whitehills, a village in the neighbourhood of Banff, were at sea on the morning of Wednesday, when, about half-past seven o'clock, a tremendous hurricane came on, by which two of the boats, containing eight men, were upset. Only two of the crew were saved by clinging to the boat till the arrival of another boat. Those men who met with a watery grave are W. Watson, James Watson, and John Watson, brothers; George Ritchie, George Watson, sen., and George Watson, jun., all married men, and who have left wives and families to lament their untimely fate. The two saved were much exhausted when brought ashore, but are now in the way of recovery; their names are David Watson and James Watson, all connected with each other by marriage.—*Elgin Courier*.

Miscellaneous.

THE BAZAAR AT CABUL.—The following is a description of the grand bazaar at Cabul, taken from the *Bombay Times*:—"It was the pride and the mart of Central Asia. A revenue of £20,000 a year was derived from the customs of the city, at a duty of 2½ per cent. on goods annually disposed of, amounting to nearly a million sterling in value. The grand bazaar, which contained nearly 2,000 shops, was an elegant arcade 600 feet long and 30 wide; it was divided into four compartments, two stories high, plastered over and ornamented with fresco paintings along the roof, the four aisles uniting a square occupied the place where they met. There was another adjoining of similar structure, though less magnificent dimensions, and both appear to have formed the wonder of travelers and the boast of Afghanistan. The silks and cloths—the shawls and cloaks—the ornaments of the armourers, fruit merchants' and bookbinders' shops, are spoken of with delight by every one who ever visited the city. Over the shops are the houses of the merchants. It does not appear that any particular share was ever taken by the shopkeepers in any part of the insurrection; and the fact that throughout a siege of two months, when our guns so repeatedly played on the suspected portions of the city, the bazaar alone excepted, leads to the inference which the unwarlike habits of this portion of the citizens confirms, that during the insurrection

of November and December, the merchants had at least not made their hostility to us conspicuous. Indeed it now appears that the chief portion of those who will suffer from our vengeance are not Afghans at all, but men of Hindostan, who trusted to this as a security from wrong! But unfortunately for them, it happened that on the 23d of December, the mutilated remains of Sir W. M'Naghten had been carried by the rabble of Ghazee fanatics along the street, opposite the shops; and in which fact the occupants of the bazaar had, so far as appears, no more guilty participation, such as to warrant this punishment, than the shopkeepers in the Strand in that of a treasonable placard which, without their knowledge, might be carried along in sight of their windows."

HORRIBLE AFFAIR.—It turns out (says a letter from New York) that events of a most appalling character occurred on board the United States brig Somers, on her voyage home from Africa. The Somers is a very fine sailer, has 10 guns, and a crew of about 20 able men, and 40 apprentice boys, making, with the officers, some 75 persons on board. Shortly before the brig arrived at St Thomas's, where she put in to water, it came to the knowledge of Lieut. Commandant Mackenzie that a mutiny was in preparation on board, headed by midshipman Spencer, a son of the Hon. Secretary at War. Spencer was thereupon arrested, and papers were found upon him, signed by such a number of the crew as would have been able to carry out their plan by a surprise. The obligations they had entered into were of the most desperate kind. They had sworn that they were not afraid of blood; that after the brig had been watered and was prepared for a cruise, they would rise, take possession of her, and kill every officer except the surgeon, who might be necessary for them; that they would then proceed off the Hook of New York harbour, and capture the homeward bound packets, which they expected would contain large sums of specie. Of the people on board the captured vessels, they swore that no one should be left to tell tales. After these horrible disclosures a court-martial was held upon Spencer and those most prominently connected with him. It was impossible to know how far the contamination had spread, though it had evidently gone to a most dangerous extent. To crush it at all hazards was indispensable. The court-martial determined that nothing short of the prompt execution of the ring-leaders would insure the safety of the ship. Spencer and two petty officers were thereupon ordered to be hung on the yard-arm, which was done forthwith, and such other measures taken as entirely frustrated the diabolical plan. The brig now lies at the navy yard, with all hands on board, all intercourse with the shore being forbidden. Spencer was about 19 years of age.

EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-THREE.—On New year's day there was a sort of family re-union which may not occur again for many years—the first day of the week, the first day of the month, the first day of the moon, all happening at the same time. When shall these three meet again on a new year's day?

LOSSES BY FIRE.—The result of the last year is considered as more unfavourable to the assurance companies in England than they have ever experienced; and it is stated, from the best authority, that, collectively, they have not paid less during the year for losses by fire than the large sum of £1,000,000. This sum includes the great fire at Hamburg, which caused losses to the English offices to nearly half the amount.

PROSECUTION OF THE TIMES.—In the court of Queen's Bench, on Thursday, the Attorney-general applied for a rule to show cause why a criminal information should not be filed against the publisher of the *Times* newspaper, for a libel on Mr George Alfred Muskett, the late member for St Alban's, and now an acting magistrate of Hertfordshire. In a police report which appeared in the *Times* of the 13th December, Charles Muskett, a person who was summoned for keeping a disorderly house in Regent street, was described as the late member for St Alban's; and the totally unfounded imputation caused great distress to Mr Muskett and his family. A letter from Mr Muskett's lawyer was afterwards inserted in the *Times*, under the usual head of the police report; and that not being considered sufficient, the editor offered to insert a statement drawn up on the part of Mr Muskett; but that again was declined, and the editor was required to make such a disavowal as his own candour would prompt. Nothing further was done, and hence the present prosecution. Lord Denman said, that if Mr Muskett had in the first instance, when he met a refusal to give up the authority of the *Times*, applied for a criminal information, there was no doubt that it would have been granted; but as Mr Muskett referred to the editor to do what he thought proper—as the editor expressed his pleasure in contradicting the report, and offered to do anything more that could be required of him, the Lord Chief Justice did not see how the Court could be called upon to judge of the terms between the parties. The rule was therefore refused.

A WEST-END SHOPLIFTER.—At Marlborough street, on Tuesday, a very handsomely-dressed woman, who gave the name of Sarah Harris, was brought before Mr Maltby for final examination, charged with having stolen 300 yards of lace, value £21, the property of Messrs Swan and Edgar, silk-mercers, Piccadilly. Anthony Blackburn, assistant to Messrs Swan and Co., said, that on Tuesday week the prisoner came into the shop about two o'clock, and asked to look at some black satin. Witness waited upon and suited her with the quantity she required. She then requested to see some gloves. The gloves were shown to her, and she purchased one pair. She

then inquired for lace, and a great number of boxes containing the lace cards was placed before her. She bought a few yards, and witness having made out the bill and received the amount, the prisoner took her purchases and walked out of the shop. Thomas Little, shopman, said he saw the prisoner looking at some lace on the day when she was served by the last witness. When the first box was brought to him at the lace counter after it had been shown to the prisoner, witness counted the cards, and found eight of the number deficient. When the other boxes were brought back, the contents were counted, and sixteen additional cards were found deficient. The twenty-four cards contained upwards of 300 yards of lace. As soon as the prisoner left the shop, witness followed her out into the street, and obliged her to enter one of the private rooms. The prisoner pretended not to know what was meant by being taxed with having committed a robbery, and further, declared she would not be searched. A woman was sent for, and also a policeman. When they came, witness saw several cards of lace lying on the ground, and some under the prisoner's dress, as if they had just fallen from her person. Mr R. Hope, one of the partners, proved that twenty-four cards of lace were picked up from the floor of a private room, into which the prisoner was taken, and where no lace was ever kept. Five pairs of gloves found on the prisoner witness believed to be his property. The prisoner objected to give her address. She applied to have the goods she bought restored, and a change of dress, and was allowed her latter request by the magistrate. The prisoner was fully committed.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.—Captain Bloomfield, an Englishman, accompanied by two other gentlemen, arrived here to-day. He has been commissioned by his government to draw up a report respecting the condition of the roads in Bavaria, Tyrol, &c., and to furnish estimates of the probable duration of a journey from Trieste to London, with a view of providing materials for determining on the expediency of forwarding the overland Indian mail through Germany. Captain Bloomfield's report is highly favourable. He particularly praises the excellent post office organisation in the Austrian states. He made the journey from London to this place, *via* Ostend, Cologne, Frankfurt, Munich, Augsburg, Inspruck, &c., in 135 hours and 25 minutes. This would enable the correspondence to be forwarded from Alexandria to London in 114 to 12 days; but when the railroads, now in construction, shall have been finished, a considerable additional saving of time will be possible. We may, therefore, expect, confidently, that in a very short time the Indian mail will be forwarded through Germany. It is true, we have no telegraphs, as they have in France; but the French telegraphs have hitherto been a source of annoyance rather than of profit to England.—*Allgemeine Zeitung*.

POST OFFICE MONEY ORDERS.—The following are the numbers of money orders issued at some of the principal post offices during the last three months. At the general post office, in round numbers, 15,000; Dublin, 11,000; Edinburgh, 7,000; Liverpool, 18,000; Manchester, 13,000; Glasgow, 8,000; Birmingham, 8,000; Charing cross, 8,000; Bristol, 7,000; Bath, 5,000; Brighton, 6,000; Lombard street, 7,000; Cavendish street, 5,000. Some idea may be formed of the immense sums paid into the various post offices in the kingdom, by the fact that above a quarter of a million of pounds sterling were paid into the few offices just mentioned, in small sums varying from 1s. to £5 during the space of three months. The commission on such a sum must have amounted to between £2,000 and £3,000. The money order department increases in extent at a rapid rate. There are already upwards of one hundred clerks in the post office order department in the general post office.

VARIETIES.

Mr Gardiner, the Bristol gaoler, has devised an improvement of the treadmill. The prisoners, at every step they take, call up to view a letter or a word, and are thus taught the alphabet and reading whilst they are at work. "By degrees," says a contemporary, "they become able to read a chapter in the Bible."

It is remarked that more children are burnt to death in this country in one year, than the total number of Hindoo women in any age, who burn themselves with the dead bodies of their husbands, and about which so much has been said.

The Irish mile is 2,240 yards; a Scotch mile is 1,984 yards; an English, or statute mile, 1,760 yards; German, 1,806; Turkish, 1,826.

The human body consists of 240 bones, 9 kinds of articulations or joinings, 100 cartilages or ligaments, 400 muscles or tendons, and 100 nerves, besides blood, arteries, veins, &c.

In marching, soldiers take 75 steps per minute; quick marching, 108; and in charging, 150 steps.

Of 100 parts into which the surface of the earth may be divided, Europe contains 7, Africa 21, Continental Asia 33, New Holland, &c., 8, South America 15, and North America 16.

The following days of the week are set apart for public worship in different nations:—Sunday, or the Lord's day, by the Christians; Monday by the Grecians; Tuesday by the Persians; Wednesday by the Assyrians; Thursday by the Egyptians; Friday by the Turks; and Saturday by the Jews.

A self-loading cart, for sweeping the streets of Manchester, invented by Mr Whitworth, an engineer, has now been in efficient operation in that town for the last ten months, altogether doing away with the necessity for sweepers and scavengers. The machine is about to be introduced into the metropolis.

On Monday afternoon nine cannon, eight of them having a bore of ten inches in diameter, were shipped on board the Scotch brig Hebe, for Constantinople; forty tons of shot and shells are also to be shipped for the same destination. They are said to be for the Grand Sultan.

By a recent return it has been ascertained that there are upwards of 1,000 lunatics and idiots in Wales, and that there is no public asylum for the reception of the insane throughout the principality.

Thirteen large vessels are at present fitting with the Archimedian screw, among which may be mentioned the Great Britain, now building at Bristol, a vessel of more than 3,000 tons burden, the Rattler, government frigate, and three French ships of war.

Why do Puseyites take away our pews? Do you give it up? Because they are very fond of forms.

In the present day the fee of a physician in Spain is said to be two-pence from a tradesman, ten-pence from the man of fashion, and nothing from the poor. Some noble families agree with the physician by the year, paying him annually four score reals, that is sixteen shillings, for his attendance on them and their families.

It is said that M. D. Laborde, of Bayonne, has invented an apparatus for divers, by means of which they may remain under water a whole day, use their hands and feet in the most rapid currents, and preserve easy respiration and ample warmth.

An Irish provincial paper has the following startling announcement:—"A list of the subscribers to the reward for the murder of James Scully, Esq., appears in our columns of this day."

By relying on our resources, we acquire mental strength; but when we lean on others for support, we are like an invalid, who having accustomed himself to a crutch, finds it difficult to walk without one.

Religious Intelligence.

BLAKENEY TABERNACLE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Wednesday, 11th January, the Rev. A. R. Philips was ordained to the pastoral office over the church assembling in this place of worship. The Rev. J. Horlick, of Mitchell Dean, commenced the engagements with reading the scriptures and prayer; the Rev. Joseph Hyatt, of Gloucester, delivered the introductory discourse, clearly defining the nature of a Christian church, and defending the principles of congregationalism against the prevailing errors of the day; the Rev. Thomas Maund, of Stonehouse, asked the usual questions, which were replied to by Mr Richard White on the part of the church, and by Mr Philips; the Rev. R. Knill, of Wotton-under-Edge, offered the ordination prayer; the Rev. Richard Connebee, of Dorking (Mr Philips's former pastor), gave the charge from 1 Tim. iv., 11, 12, exhibiting in an affectionate and faithful manner the duties and responsibility of a Christian minister; the Rev. E. L. Shadrach, of Dursley, preached to the church and congregation from Hebrews xiii., 17; the Rev. B. Jenkyn, of Little Dean, concluded the deeply interesting and impressive service with prayer. On the evening of the previous day a preparatory service was held, when the Rev. Richard Knill preached from Isaiah xlix., 15, 16.

POOLE.—The Rev. A. Morton Browne, A.M., having resigned his charge, held during nearly six years, as co-pastor with the Rev. T. Durant of this place, preached his farewell sermon on Sunday evening last to a large and attentive auditory. Mr Browne enters on his duties as pastor of the church at High-bury chapel, Cheltenham, on the second sabbath in January.

BURNHAM.—On Monday last, the foundation stone of a new baptist chapel was laid at Burnham, by W. Cross, Esq., of Bristol, who has kindly given £25 towards its erection. The Rev. Evan Probert of Bristol, delivered an address on the occasion; and after prayer by the Rev. W. J. Cross of Thornbury, the Revs H. Trend of Bridgewater, E. Webb of Cheddar, and T. Baker of Burrowbridge, took part in the services of the day. The weather was tolerably fine, and a few gleams of sunshine enlivened the occasion. We trust the happiest results will follow the erection of the intended chapel, and that it will operate on dissenters as an attraction to this interesting and delightful little watering place.

BIRTH.

Jan. 10, at Hackney, the lady of the Rev. T. P. Wright, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 1, at the baptist chapel, Thrapstone, by the Rev. B. C. Young, Mr THOMAS D. HENSMAN, to Miss DOROTHY CLARK ARMSTRONG, only surviving daughter of the late Mr James Armstrong, of North Shields.

Jan. 3, at the independent chapel, Market Harborough, by the Rev. H. Toller, the Rev. S. WALKER, of Braybrook, to FRANCES, daughter of the Rev. E. CHATER, of Kibworth.

Jan. 12, at Union chapel, Islington, by the Rev. George Clayton, the Rev. JOHN PVE SMITH, D.D., to CATHARINE ELIZABETH, widow of the late Rev. William CLAYTON.

Jan. 5, at the parish church, Wednesbury, by the Rev. Isaac Clarkson, vicar, Mr W. H. WRENFOR, of Welch Row academy, Nantwich, to MARTHA CONSTABLE, youngest daughter of the late Rev. John PICKERING, nonconformist minister, Wednesbury.

Jan. 5, at Scott's Lane chapel, Salisbury, the Rev. SAM. SLEIGH, to SUSANNAH, youngest daughter of the late Joseph VIDLER, Esq., of that city.

DEATHS.

Deeply lamented by their surviving mother, Sept. 14, 1842, in her sixteenth year, JANET ELIZABETH, youngest daughter, and Dec. 27, in his fourteenth year, JOHN JOSEPH, youngest son, of the late Mr STEVENSON, of Thrapstone, for many years a deacon of the baptist church in that place.

Jan. 5, deeply lamented by all who knew her, BLANCH, widow of the late Mr Thomas Burley ROUSE, of Portsmouth, who, after a long and exemplary Christian course, sweetly fell asleep in Jesus, in the 86th year of her age.

Jan. 7, at East Sheen, Surrey, after a long and painful illness, in the 90th year of his age, Mr JOSEPH CONDER, the last surviving son of the late Rev. John Conder, D.D., formerly president of Homerton college.

Jan. 12, ELIZABETH SARAH, the wife of the Rev. G. PEARCE, of Ware, Herts, and daughter of the late Joseph Antrim Webb, Gent., of Stowmarket, Suffolk.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, Jan. 13.

BANKRUPTS.

CASSON, JOHN, Liverpool, corn merchant, Jan. 27, Feb. 17: solicitors, Messrs Lowndes and Co., Liverpool, and Messrs Sharpe and Co., Bedford row, London.

CORHAM, GEORGE FREDERICK, and WRIGHT, WILLIAM BURT, Peckham, Surrey, and Gravesend, Kent, builders, Jan. 20, Feb. 24: solicitors, Messrs Frankham and Dixon, Basinghall street.

DICKENSON, JOHN, Newport, Monmouthshire, butcher, Jan. 24, Feb. 21: solicitors, Messrs Protheroe and Towgood, Newport.

HENSON, JAMES, 4, Bury court, St Mary Axe, City, upholsterer, Jan. 20, March 3: solicitors, Messrs Loftly and Potter, King street, Cheapside.

LAW, STEPHEN, 102, Great Portland street, St Marylebone, upholsterer, Jan. 20, Feb. 24: solicitors, Messrs Ramondi and Gooday, Gray's inn.

SMITH, WILLIAM, and STICKALS, JOHN, 12, Queen's buildings, Knightsbridge, cheesemongers, Jan. 24, Feb. 24: solicitor, Mr Sutcliffe, Bridge street, Blackfriars.

WARDLE, JOHN, now or late of 3, Griffen street, Shadwell, shipowner, Jan. 26, Feb. 24: solicitors, Messrs Simpson and Cobb, 11, Austin friars.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

MOLLWO, HERMAN, Dundee, merchant, Jan. 18, Feb. 8.

Tuesday, January 17.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 85:—

Hope chapel, Reading, Berkshire, Thomas G. Curteis, superintendent registrar.
Ebenezer chapel, Chepping Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, C. Harman, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

HEDGMAN, JAMES, 218, High Holborn, dealer in leather.

BANKRUPTS.

CLARKE, THOMAS EDWARD, Acle, Norfolk, apothecary, Feb. 2, March 2: solicitors, Messrs Clarke and Co., Lincoln's inn, London: and Messrs Beckwith and Co., Norwich.

COLEMAN, JOHN, Birmingham, victualer, Jan. 20, Feb. 21: solicitor, Mr Cornelius Benson, Birmingham.

DUNN, RICHARD, and RICHARD DACE, Wakefield, Yorkshire, corn factors, Feb. 2, 23: solicitors, Mr Charles Wilson, 6, Southampton street, Bloomsbury, London, and Messrs Payne and Co., Leeds.

GROVES, MARTHA, York, joiner, Jan. 31, Feb. 16: solicitor, Mr John Wood, York.

HUGHES, THOMAS, 51, Great Coram street, Brunswick square, lodging housekeeper, Jan. 31, Feb. 28: solicitors, Messrs Piniger, Gray's inn square.

HUMPHREY, WILLIAM, Old Dorset place, Clapham road, Surrey, dealer in furniture, Jan. 31, Feb. 12: solicitor, Mr Ashurst, Cheapside, London.

JARDINE, JOHN, late of Richibucto, New Brunswick, and now of Liverpool, merchant, Feb. 6, March 1: solicitors, Messrs Holden and Clarke, Liverpool, and Messrs Walmsley and Co., Chancery lane, London.

LATTIMER, JOHN, Hanslope, Buckinghamshire, corn factor, Jan. 26, March 7: solicitors, Messrs Robinson and Drury, Tottenham yard.

LINSKILL, JOHN, Bridlington, Yorkshire, schoolmaster, Jan. 28, Feb. 18: solicitors, Messrs Jennings and Conyers, Great Driffield.

MAY, JAMES, Clapham rise, Surrey, china dealer, Jan. 27, Feb. 24: solicitors, Mr John Watson, jun., 4, Trafalgar square, and Mr R. Cole, 14, Tokenhouse yard, London.

MAYHEW, WILLIAM, 54, Crutched friars, City, and Camberwell, Surrey, wine merchant, Jan. 25, March 3: solicitor, Mr H. P. Bird, Lincoln's inn fields.

NORFOLK, JOHN, and BARKER, EDWARD, jun., Woodhouse Carr, Yorkshire, dyers, Jan. 30, Feb. 17: solicitors, Mr Charles Fildes, 3, Paper buildings, Temple, London, and Messrs Barr and Co., Leeds.

ORMEROD, JOHN HOYLE, Manchester, wine merchant, Jan. 27, Feb. 17: solicitor, Mr Edward Heath, Manchester.

RITCHIE, JOSEPH HORATIO, Rotherhithe, Surrey, shipwright, Jan. 28, Feb. 28: solicitors, Messrs Swain and Co., 6, Frederick's place, Old Jewry, London.

THOMPSON, WILLIAM, late of Lytchet Minster, Dorsetshire, but now of Exeter, merchant, Jan. 26, Feb. 21: solicitors, Messrs Parris, Poole, and Messrs Holmes and Co., New inn, London.

WELSH, WILLIAM INMAN, 16, Great Queen street, Lincoln's inn fields, and Wells, Somersetshire, brewer, Jan. 27, Feb. 23: solicitors, Messrs Richards and Walker, Lincoln's inn fields.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

BRUCE, PETER, Glasgow, rag merchant, Jan. 23, Feb. 13.

BUCHANAN, JOHN CROSS, Auchentoshan, and late of Glasgow, Jan. 21, Feb. 11.

M'KAY, JOHN, Glasgow, draper, Jan. 23, Feb. 17.

MINTO, JOHN, Edinburgh, surgeon, Jan. 23, Feb. 13.

NOBLE, WILLIAM, Lasswade, candle maker, Jan. 23, Feb. 13.

BRITISH FUNDS.

The stock market has been very dull for the last few days, with a slight depression of prices, which, however, rallied again on Monday and Tuesday.

	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
Ditto for Account	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½	94½
3 per cent. Reduced	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
3½ per cent. Reduced	102	102	102	101½	102	102
New 3½ per cent.	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½	101½
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	172½	173	172½	172½	172½	172½
India Stock	263	—	262	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	67pm	65pm	62pm	62pm	62pm	62pm
India Bonds	57pm	—	55pm	57pm	—	—

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	39	London and Brighton	36½
Birmingham & Gloucester	47	London & Croydon/Trunk	9
Blackwall	5	London and Greenwich	5
Bristol and Exeter	49	Ditto New	15
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	28	Manchester & Birm.	20½
Eastern Counties	9	Manchester and Leeds	72
Edinburgh and Glasgow	—	Midland Counties	64½
Great North of England	58	Ditto Quarter Shares	—
Great Western	89	North Midland	64
Ditto New	64	Ditto New	—
Ditto Fifths	8½	South Eastern and Dover	22½
London and Birmingham	205	South Western	62½
Ditto Quarter Shares	48	Ditto New	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	111	Mexican	32
Belgian	102½	Peruvian	18½
Brazilian	73	Portuguese 5 per cents	41
Buenos Ayres	24	Ditto 3 per cents	24
Columbian	23	Russian	114
Danish	—	Spanish Active	18
Dutch 2½ per cents	52	Ditto Passive	4½
Ditto 5 per cents	101	Ditto Deferred	10½

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, Jan. 16.

There was quite a moderate supply of wheat, and the condition of the samples was by no means bad. Still great difficulty was experienced in making sales, and prices were 1s. to 2s. lower than on this day week.

Superior barley was in fair request, and quite as dear as last week, but all other descriptions were exceedingly dull of sale. Beans and peas moved off in retail at the currency of last Monday.

Oats excited little attention, but could scarcely have been bought at less money.

Wheat, Red New	46 to 50	Malt, Ordinary	42 to 52
Fine	48 .. 56	Pale	54 .. 58
White	48 .. 52	Peas, Hog	24 .. 27
Fine	52 .. 60	Maple	28 .. 30
Rye	30 .. 36	Boilers	30 .. 35
Barley	22 .. 24	Beans, Ticks	25 .. 27
Malt	28 to 32		

Beans, Pigeon	30 to 32	DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.	
Harrow	29 .. 31	Wheat	20s. 0d.
Oats, Feed	16 .. 18	Barley	10 0
Fine	20 .. 22	Oats	8 0
Poland	20 .. 22	Rye	11 6
Potato	19 .. 22	Beans	11 6
		Peas	10 6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR JAN. 13.			AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.		
Wheat	47s.	1d.	Wheat	47s.	4
Barley	26	5	Barley	26	9
Oats	17	2	Oats	17	4
Rye	31	7	Rye	27	5
Beans	28	0	Beans	29	4
Peas	29	11	Peas	31	8

SEEDS.

The operations in the seed market are still on a very limited scale. For red cloverseed the inquiry continues as languid as possible, but supplies coming slowly to hand prices are maintained. Canaryseed was plentiful to-day, and barely supported its previous value. In quotations of other sorts of seeds no change occurred.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Jan. 16.

The butter market was much firmer, and a considerable quantity of business was transacted. An advance of 2s. to 3s. on the finer kinds, and 1s. per cwt on other descriptions, was realised, and the tendency is to further improvement. Foreign, no change in prices; arrivals few. In bacon no better demand, and prices are the turn cheaper; 34s. to 38s. are the rates current. Bale and tierce middles in limited request at 33s. to 35s. per cwt. Lard dull at 1s. to 2s. decline. Hams in slow sale at 48s. to 62s.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 16.

The market has been very firm since this day week, and we quote upon the Wealds and Sussex an advance of 2s. per cwt, while the other descriptions are very well supported. The hops of former years' growth become scarcer every day, and there are but one or two factors who have any of 1837 on sale. As the spring advances, a brisk trade is looked for. Wealds of Kent, last year, 78s. to 86s.; East Kent, 100s. to 104s.; and Sussex, 75s. to 80s. per cwt. Pockets of 1841, from 60s. to 70s.; choice, 70s. to 84s.; bags, 60s. to 80s.; pockets of olds, 35s. to 42s. per cwt.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, Jan. 16.

The supply of beasts was far beyond the number required, and many were turned out unsold at the close of the market. In the early part of the morning trade was particularly dull, but improved as the day advanced. A reduction in prices of 2d. per stone was willingly made to effect sales. There was a large supply of sheep, which went off somewhat slowly at a decline in rates of full 2d. per stone. The veal trade was brisk, at higher prices.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 2d. to 4s. 6d.	Veal	3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton	3 2 .. 4 4	Pork	3 10 .. 4 8
HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.			
Beasts	579	Sheep	2,040
Friday	579	Calves	135
Monday	2,937	Pigs	387
			297

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, Jan. 16.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.			
Inferior Beef	2s. 10d. to 3s. 0d.	Inf. Mutton	3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.
Middling do	3 0 .. 3 2	Mid. ditto	3 4 .. 3 8
Prime large	3 2 .. 3 4	Prime ditto	3 10 .. 4 0
Prime small	3 6 .. 3 8	Veal	3 6 .. 4 4
Large Pork	3 6 .. 4 0	Small Pork	4 2 .. 4 6

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, Jan. 16.

The supplies received since our last are—from York, 390 tons; Scotland, 645; Kent and Essex, 150; Devons, 55; Wisbeach, 90; total, 1330 tons.

York reds	50s. to 60s.	Kent, whites	40s. to 45s.
Scott ditto	40 .. 45	Guernsey ditto	40 .. 45
Devons	45 .. 50	Wisbech	40 .. 45

COTTON.

A moderate demand has been experienced for cotton. 3,000 bales have been sold at late prices, and business has closed quietly.

WOOL.

The present week has not furnished any new features in the wool market. Prices are firm, with an upward tendency, though the manufacturers are very unwilling to give an advance. The high prices asked by the farmers, however, prevent the dealers from obtaining a further supply to sell at late quotations.

Down ewes 0s. 10d. to 0s. 10½d.	Hf-bred hogs 1s. 0d. to 1s. 0½d
Down teggs 0 11 .. 1 0	Flannelwool 0 8½ .. 1 0
Wethers 0 10 .. 0 11	Blanket wool 0 5 .. 0 7½

HAY, SMITHFIELD, Jan. 14.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow	60s. to 75s.	New Clover Hay	80s. to 110s.
New ditto	—	Old ditto	—
Useful old ditto	80 .. 84	Oat Straw	40 .. 42
Fine Upland do	85 .. 90	Wheat Straw	42 .. 44

COAL EXCHANGE, Jan. 16.

B. Hetton's, 21s. 6d.; Hetton's, 21s. 3d.; Lambton's, 21s. 3d.; Hanwell's, 21s.; Caradoc's, 21s. 3d. Ships arrived this week, 45.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JAN. 17.

TEA.—Several small parcels were sold to-day at fair rates; ordinary congou at 1s. 3d.; good common, 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4d.; and ordinary twankay at 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4d. per lb., cash.

COFFEE.—The market is dull, and prices lower than last week. Good ordinary Ceylon are only saleable in small parcels at 60s. to 61s.; fine ordinary, 62s. 63s. A small lot of company's Java were offered by public sale, but partly sold at 44s. for good bold yellow.

SUGAR.—Prices are 6d. to 1s. per cwt lower than last week. 100 hhds Barbadoes were sold by auction; good to fine yellow fetched 66s. to 68s., low to middling 57s. to 61s. 6d. per cwt. The refined market is equally heavy. Good standard humps are 71s. to 74s. 6d. per cwt, brown grocery 73s. to 73s. 6d., and bonded crushed are offered at 27s. 6d. per cwt.

TALLOW.—Prices are rather lower; 47s. has been accepted to day for best St Petersburg yellow candle, on the spot.

Advertisements.

GENERAL FUNERAL ESTABLISHMENT.

150, Blackfriars Road, opposite the Magdalen.

JOHN R. WILD.—FAMILIES WISHING TO have Funerals conducted with Economy and Increased Solemnity, and avoid the extravagant charges generally made to the injury of the survivors, whose means are frequently reduced, in consequence of the harassing necessity of employing parties totally unacquainted with the business, thereby incurring the most unwarrantable expenditure—to supersede this extensive arrangements have been entered into at this Establishment. Carriage funerals, including all charges to either Cemetery, or elsewhere, £5 5s. Funerals to any extent at equally reduced prices.

A YOUNG LADY, accustomed to Tuition, wishes to meet with a Re-engagement as **RESIDENT GOVERNESS**, or as **MORNING GOVERNESS** in the Metropolis. In addition to the usual routine of an English Education, she teaches French, Music, and Use of the Globes, with German and Drawing if required. Address, pre-paid, to S. T., at Mr Wighton's, 20, Coventry street, Haymarket.

VANBURGH HOUSE, BLACKHEATH.
MR HOSKINS begs to remind his Friends that the Duties of the **SCHOOL** are resumed this day. A Prospectus will be sent to any Parent or Guardian.

TO PARENTS AND GUARDIANS.
MR TURNER begs to inform the Public that he has opened a **SCHOOL** for Young Gentlemen in **BRAINTREE, ESSEX**, and begs to solicit their support. The course of instruction comprises Latin and Algebra, in addition to the usual branches of a solid education. Mr T. also undertakes to impart a thorough knowledge of the new and popular system of **SINGING**. This would be found a desirable home for children deprived of maternal care, as their domestic comfort would be sedulously studied by Mrs Turner, and every attention paid to their moral improvement.

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References are kindly permitted to the Rev. J. CARTER and the Rev. W. HUMPHRIES, Baintree, and to the Rev. T. CRAIG, Bocking.

ACADEMICAL DEGREES.—Ministers of any denomination, or others properly qualified, may, through the assistance of the Advertiser, obtain a University Degree in Arts or Theology. Address, p. p., stating qualifications in full, to M. D., 15, Tottenham court, New road.

AT A MEETING of the Deputies of the several Congregations of Protestant Dissenters of the three denominations, Presbyterian, Independent, and Baptist, in and within twelve miles of London, appointed to protect their Civic rights.

HENRY WAYMOU, Esq., in the chair.
It was resolved, That, in the opinion of the assembled deputies of the several Protestant Dissenting congregations in and near the metropolis, the hostile attitude assumed by the bishops and clergy of the Established Church, in respect of the liberties of their Protestant Dissenting fellow-subjects, and the attempts recently made to pass bills through the House of Commons, containing enactments and provisions infringing upon the rights of conscience, impose upon all who value their religious privileges the duty of united and persevering efforts to withstand the intolerant claims of the clergy, and to oppose any further extension of the Establishment of legislative enactments of parliamentary grants.

(Signed) **HENRY WAYMOUTH, Chairman.**
Wednesday, January 11, 1843.

DISSENTERS' AND GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE OFFICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the **HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND**, declared on the 11th inst, is now payable to the Shareholders on any day between Ten and Four at the Offices of the Company, No. 62, King William street, London bridge.

This Company, now established during several years, and sanctioned by a special Act of Parliament, presents the security afforded by a Capital paid up and profitably invested, and invites a comparison, both in the Life and Fire Departments, of its terms with those of any other respectable office throughout the Empire. All its arrangements are made in the most liberal manner to meet the peculiar circumstances and convenience of every assurer.
By order of the Board,
THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

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The effect of an Assurance on a person's own life is to create at once a property in reversion, which can by no other means be realised. Take, for instance, the case of a person at the age of Thirty, who by the payment of £5 3s. 4d. to the Britannia Life Assurance Company can become at once possessed of a bequeathable property, amounting to £1000, subject only to the condition of his continuing the same payment quarterly during the remainder of his life—a condition which may be fulfilled by the mere saving of EIGHT SHILLINGS weekly in his expenditure. Thus by the exertion of a very slight degree of economy—such, indeed, as can scarcely be felt as an inconvenience, he may at once realise a capital of £1000, which he can bequeath or dispose of in any way he may think proper.

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1. Open Diapason 221 Pipes.
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3. Principal
4. Fifteenth 478 15 0

With shifting movement, and an octave and half of German Pedals, in handsome Gothic cases, painted oak (or any colour), gilt speaking pipes in front, horizontal bellows to blow behind—10 ft 10 in. high—6 ft 6 in. wide—3 ft 6 in. deep.

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1. Open Diapason 332 Pipes.
2. Stopt Diapason
3. Principal
4. Dulciana
5. Twelfth
6. Fifteenth £110

With two compound Pedals, and an octave and half of German Pedals, in handsome Gothic cases, painted oak (or any colour), gilt speaking pipes in front, horizontal bellows to blow behind—13 ft high—7 ft 6 in. wide—4 ft deep.

The bold and powerful tone of these instruments produces an effect far more grand than any of the organs of the Old School, containing double the number of stops.

T. C. B. has for sale Four Grand Euterpeans, of great power and sweet quality, performing a great variety of subjects.

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JOHN PICKTON, Accountant.

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From circumstances over which the Committee have had no control, the annual income has of late much declined, and the Treasurer is now seriously in advance; so that, to meet the existing claims on the Society, the sum of £1500 is required; while an additional amount will be needed to carry into effect the intended plans of usefulness which the Committee have in view for the benefit of the sister isle.

By the numbers and religious destitution of the millions of immortal beings in Ireland, by the importance of maintaining every portion of Protestant ground now occupied there, by the influence which the evangelisation of that land will have on the future condition of our Colonies, and the salvation of the ends of the earth, and by a regard to the authority of the Saviour who commanded the Gospel to be preached to every creature, the Committee earnestly entreat their fellow Christians to come to their help without delay. Contributions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, T. M. Coombs, Esq., Ludgate hill; or by the Secretaries, 7, Blomfield street.

On behalf of the Committee,
THOMAS JAMES, Secretaries.
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The following Donations are thankfully acknowledged—
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COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

AT A GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the **LEICESTER COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION**, held in the Town Hall on Thursday, January 12, the following Resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved—
"1. That in the opinion of this Meeting the circumstances which occurred at the Conference recently held at Birmingham prove that the apprehensions of the Committee of the Leicester Complete Suffrage Association were well founded, and fully justify the wisdom of the step which they felt it their duty to take in earnestly recommending that such Conference should not be held.

"2. That in the opinion of this Meeting the conduct of the Chartist Delegates (many of whom were most unfairly appointed) at the Birmingham Conference was highly reprehensible, and that the Council, with the Complete Suffrage Delegates, acted wisely in refusing to consider the document known by the name of the People's Charter, before the bill which had been prepared with great trouble and expense for submission and consideration, and in resolutely refusing to have such a measure arbitrarily forced upon them, and that no course was open to the minority but that of separating from the chartist delegates, for the promotion of the principles and plans of the National Complete Suffrage Union.

"That in the opinion of this Meeting the disinclination of the chartist delegates to co-operate with the friends of complete suffrage at the recent conference, in seeking the extension of popular rights, affords no evidence that the great body of the people are adverse to the constitution and the objects of the National Complete Suffrage Union, and that, instead of effectually retarding, it will essentially serve the cause of peaceful and enlightened agitation in which the Suffrage society has embarked, by drawing the line of distinction, widely and permanently, between that society and a set of men whose violent and misguided conduct has drawn upon themselves, and the cause they profess to serve, the obloquy of the nation at large.

"4. That the members of this society are increasingly convinced, by all that transpires around them, that nothing short of a full, fair, and free representation of the people of these realms in the British House of Commons will raise them to their legitimate political position, rescue them from their numerous and grievous wrongs, or destroy the pernicious influence which is at present exercised over them by interested and designing men; and that, growingly impressed with the justice of their principles, and the inseparable connexion of their opinions with the well-being of the state, they pledge themselves to use all energetic, and peaceful, and constitutional means to secure for them universal approval and triumph.

"5. That in the opinion of this Meeting steps should be immediately taken to strengthen the Complete Suffrage Society in Leicester, and that with this view an address to the working classes be prepared and circulated through the town; that an article contained in the *Eclectic Review* for the present month be reprinted in a cheap form, and distributed among the middle classes of society; that efforts be immediately made to obtain the presence of some person to deliver a lecture or lectures in favour of complete suffrage principles; and that judicious exertions be promptly set on foot for the better organisation of the Leicester Society.

"6. That the foregoing be advertised in the *Leicestershire Mercury* and *Nonconformist* newspapers."

JOHN MANNING, Chairman.

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